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Mr. Nobu's Otherworld Chronicles

Arc 1

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Chapter 1: Please Come in Another World

"Then, manager. I'll excuse myself first okay."

"Alrighty, good work."

It's currently 9:00AM. I've finally finished the night shift and I stretch out.

I'm Izumi Nobusada. I work as a humble vice-manager of a certain convenience store.

A vice-manager's work doesn't change much from when I was a part-time worker though.

I just had a little bit more overtime work, a little less vacation, and a lot more working time on holidays.

...I feel sad now. Let's stop with gloomy stuff, I'm finally going to have three consecutive holidays now.

"I haven't had consecutive holidays in a long time. Wonder what I should do."

I was going to schedule various things, but in the end I couldn't decide what I wanted to do, currently I'm wandering around due to lack of sleep.

Yup, curse my indecisiveness.

In the end, I concluded that I'd finish my piled up errands first before creating my schedule.

There's a lot of things that need to be done like tidying up my laundry, airing the futon, and turning the pickles. Having led a single life for 35 years, I'm confident that my culinary and laundry skills won't lose to an average housewife. That's not something to be proud of though. It's a man who can do housework better because he can't get married.

In my case, it's cause I lost all my relatives in the earthquake three years ago so I had to do everything myself though. Man will manage somehow when they're driven to the edge.

Now then, I've got to stock up foodstuff on the way back. My spare money would disappear if I didn't amass them at bargain sales. I've finished the plan for tonight easily, tomorrow I'll assess where I'll be going.

I stock up foodstuff at a certain drugstore chain store. The revival of rural area hasn't advanced at all, there's no supermarket here. They've built convenience

stores the foremost so I'm not particularly troubled with meals, but my wallet won't be able to endure it if I always buy my meals at convenience stores. Not sure if someone who works at one like me should say that though.....

I cram the foodstuff in the shopping-use My Bag and go back to my car.

Most of the things I wanted were on sale, so it really helped me. There's a lot of unforeseen expenses this month like my friend's wedding, so it's been hard for me.

Hm?

There's an unfamiliar glass marble on the passenger seat where I put My Bag at. Did I put this thing here? I look at it while thinking that. It's a glass marble where the color change like a rainbow depending on the angles where you see the light from. I put it in my trousers' pocket since it tickled my fancy somehow. I'm thinking of putting it as decoration somewhere in my house, an old man who seeks comfort is avaricious.

I revved up the engine and went back home while thinking that.

"I'm home."

I come back to my home where no one will greet me. Even though I don't have a family, this is one habit where I always inadvertently say when I come home.

"Let's cut up the tofu hamburger so I can always use it anytime I want and put it into the freezer. I'll just have a plain boiled Ramen today."

I love meat but once I became a 35 year old, my inter-cerebral alarm would rang if I ate too much of them. Thus I settled with tofu hamburger steak made of tofu and tofu residue. I get more quantity for less, it's a good value for money.

Once I'm done with the preparation, I do my daily routine of stirring the Nukadoko. These house and Nukadoko are things my parents and grandparents left for me. To be honest, it's too wide for a bachelor, and maintaining it costs quite a lot.

Even then, I don't have any intention of selling them. I can put some money aside if I economize, and I don't have money problem for living.

Slurp slurp slurp slurp

I noisily slurp the Ramen while staring at a novel-contribution site.

"Hm, so good. It's relatively more expensive than instant Ramen, but recently, this tastes as good as an average Ramen shop."

At one time, when I was completely into cooking, I tried to make my own noodles and crushed Tonkotsu for the Ramen, but it took surprisingly more labor and expense than I thought it'd be, so I don't think I would do it ever again. I don't think doing that is possible unless I'm running a Ramen business.

Takatan♪ Tanta♪ Takatan♪

The BGM of a certain peasant revolt's game rang from my smartphone. This means.....

"What's wrong no-good Kouhai?"

"You seriously said that first thing first dearimasu!? I think that's too cruel for this cute cute kouhai dearimasu."

We're exchanging jokes like usual. This Kouhai is one of my not-so-many

friends, from my high school days.

"And? It's rare for you to call at this hour right? What's wrong."

"Um, you see, I got an information from the shop manager that Senpai would have consecutive holidays from today on, so it's a circumstance where I'm going there to return the DVD I borrowed a long time ago dearimasu."

"Ah, that huh. I'm planning to relax at home tonight, so you can go whenever you can."

"Got it dearimasu. Then see you later!!"

"Yeah."

Umu, a restless one like always. I can't imitate that light footwork. Mostly because I'm heavy though.

Slurp slurp slurp slurp

I'm thinking of cleaning up the room before my Kouhai comes as I'm noisily slurping the Ramen.

.....

"Hm?"

Did someone call me? Most of the neighborhood here are of old age and they're usually sleeping at this hour. This place is quiet and surrounded by mountains, so even a small sound will greatly echo.

I look around, there's no way anyone is around. No really, I'm not good with horror....

.....las.....po.....lisj.....

"....It's not an auditory...hallucination?"

Cold sweat flow on my cheeks.

Right at that time.

"Wha"

Light overflows from one part of the floor. Looking closer it looks like some

kind of geometrical pattern.

"What the hell is this-----"

My view became pure white as I lost my consciousness.

Chapter 2: Meeting the Old Demon Lord

"I don't know this ceiling...."

I muttered while looking at a ceiling that can't be called nice by any standard.

I was in an unfamiliar bed when I came to. However, I can't move my body. It's like sleep paralysis.

Yup, I can't make heads or tails of the situation at all. Rather, it flew straight over my head.

That said, it's not like I can do anything. I can't move my body, I can only think.

Just when I'm thinking about that, that glass marble in front of me is.... No wait, that's not right? That marble is floating and coming closer. It should have been inside my pocket, I wonder why it's floating .

"Yo, nice to meet you."

Eh? A voice came out of the glass marble-thing??

"Huh? You don't understand what I'm saying? That's strange, I'm sure I've put the native language in your memory...."

"N-no, I can understand you. My thought just couldn't catch up with stuff that flew over common sense."

"Ooh, good good. Then, let me explain the situation. You must be itching to know right."

--According to what the glass marble-like thing is saying, this world isn't earth. The name is 『Ethania』.

In other words it seems I've been summoned into another world. However, I wasn't summoned by this glass marble thing, it appears he interfered with the summoning and pulled me here.

"Is that really something that can be easily interfered?"

"Welll, it's not impossible cause I'm a former demon lord. And in order to do it, I had this King Soul cross over space and time to where you were."

--Yes, the glass marble-like thing in front of me is surprisingly, a former demon lord. His name is Gune Ino Setora. Dignity? Like I know!

"A certain country succeeded summoning a hero you see. After some twists and turns, I got myself killed by the hero just a few days ago. There is a country that holds a hero who can slaughter a demon lord under their arms.... Every country became terribly afraid of the collapsing military balance. And so, other countries rushed to start the hero summoning ceremony. Without putting the circumstances of the ones they're summoning into consideration that is."

--There's a hero, and he's an assassin huh..... Well from the demon lord's side, a hero is nothing more than a hit man. I guess the situation is similar for VIPs everywhere.

"What's bad about it is that some put the Collar of Subordination on the hero the moment they're summoned or add the Art of Subordination on the summoning magic circle itself. The General Humankind sure can do some inhuman things to their own race without batting an eyelid huh. Well, from their perspective, maybe they don't think otherworlders as their kind though."

--General Humans. It seems that's what they commonly call humans in this world. It seems they call anyone besides themselves Demi-humans and Demons. Of course, each race has a proper name of their own, so they ignore and think that lumping them all together as 'demi-humans' to be an insult. That seems to be common among Royalty and nobles among General Humans. It seems there's not much discrimination among the commoners who often come in contact with each other though.... As for me personally, I love paws and mofumofu myself, and mofumofu is the only choice if I have to choose ...

"Well, you don't have to worry. I've sent your neighbor's pet dog Yatsufusa-chan (♀ 1 year old) to the country that should've summoned you instead."

"Wait a minute! What are you doing sacrificing my neighbor's pet dog. She was a lovely one who got attached to me...."

"Next time! The hustles bustles of Hero Yatsufusa-chan!!"

"Don't end it. You haven't explained the reason why you interfered this summoning yet. Speaking about myself, I'm weak with things like fighting y'know? I'm even uselessly confident that I could die easily see?"

"Fuffuffuffu, that doubt is already within my expectations! Allow me to explain!! I dispatched that ball to where you were exactly for that!"

"Fumuu."

"In actuality, that ball is the condensed gem of my whole being. It's a catalyst of inheritance that corresponds to a certain condition."

"A certain condition? And I was qualified for it??"

"It's alright! The condition is a being that's identical to me in your home world 『Earth』! In other words, I'm the you in this world."

What! If it becomes a Time Paradox this or that will, w-wait that's future and past. Hmm, it does somehow feel like he's not just some stranger to me, but I don't know what to think when I'm suddenly told like this. But, unlike me who was a complete mob, this guy was successful in life huh, I'm a tiny bit envious. Not gonna put up with assassinations though.

"And thus, your body is currently in the process of evolution to cope with magic power and such. Congratulations, it'd even surprise the masked motorcyclist rider-san!"

"Oy, what're ya doing without the permission from the person himself...."

"Now now, I've set the initial body to be that of a 15 year old. Overflowing youth see? Fumu, looks like you're getting used to it little by little. Your mind seems to adjust to your body too, you sound a teeny bit younger now."

Come to think of it my speech have become somewhat youngish, or rather, rough, it sure feels a bit odd.

"And, what do you want me to do?"

This is the most important matter that needs to be confirmed. Even if I have to unwillingly admit that we're the same person, I'll have to refuse if he's pushing some unreasonable demand on me.

"Nn, I don't mind if you live freely y'know? You can live as an adventurer, as a merchant, or create an uhauha harem with beast and monster girls. Just one thing. I'd like you to listen to two of my requests if you become as strong as I wish. Of course I'm not gonna ask for some inhuman things like 'give me your body' or something you know?"

"Fumwu."

Quite an exceptional treatment for a term. If this were following the templates, it wouldn't be strange if it he asked some dangerous things like 『I'll train you here and now, let's fight!』, or 『I'll kill you if you don't obey!』. Now that my body is younger and all....

"Guess redoing the gray springtime of your life is also an option. I peeked at your memories a little, that was sure some withered youth days without anything bittersweet eh."

I feel heavy just remembering it. I would probably round up into a ball if I could move my body.

Since I was in an all boy's school, it was a gray lone-----ly youth days with no chance encounters or anything. I was a worse poor talker than I am today, I had no courage to pick up girls.

But! Now that I'm younger!! I'll stop enduring it! I'll live as I please!

I want to spend my days surrounded by my favorite cat's hut beast girls and monster girls! I want to live a depraved life playing around without having to worry about working with all my assets and property! However, I don't wanna get stuck with a troublesome position like noble, perhaps my first aim should be a village mayor who can sing and fight? Or a mayor whom not even countries could meddle with? The strongest mayor who can even win against countries, and likes mofumofu!? I think they exist! I will become mofumofu!!!

Oops, not good. My suppressed lid of desire popped. I've got to lock and weld it well. This isn't the time to release it yet.

I was an introvert who didn't like to try things, but from now on I'll be assertive. If I fail, I can just run away to another country, since there's probably no future troubles anyway, I'm gonna give it a try.

"Have you collected your thoughts? Anything you wanna ask?"

That reminds me, there's still one big question.

"I'm gonna ask just in case, is there any way to go back to the former world?"

Chapter 3: Looking at the Status

"Eh? That's not possible you know??"

He said it so easily.....

"You said it too easily no matter how you put it. Rather, if you could send that ball then it should also be possible to go back there isn't it?"

"Nn, about that y'see. One of the summoning conditions that summoned you was that it would somehow pick someone who wouldn't have problem coming here. Someone who didn't have a lingering attachment to that world and wouldn't be dissatisfied coming here I guess. And like I told you earlier, every countries expected the hero to be a military weapon, so of course they don't have any intention of returning the hero. I'm not sure if they even know how. And, I was only able to send that ball because there was a coordinate that could link with me, which was you."

Just great. Mwu, if that's the reason for the condition, I can't deny it. I have no more relative after all. If I have to say, my only regrets would be the announcement of the lottery and the manager's anxiety and physical condition from my disappearance. I also have a childhood friend, and I feel really sorry for her <TLN:or him, not clear in the raw>.... There's nothing I can do though!!

Ah, I can just imagine my Kouhai panicking in the vacant room, but let's ignore it, ignore it.

"Looks like your soul has mostly linked to the body. Think it's about time you can move?"

Fumu, come to think of it, I've been feeling quite used to it. The odd feeling that this wasn't my body jostling a while ago has disappeared. My mind is very clear. Right now, I feel that I can even tell a drunk customer off. I am the strongest ever! Un, sorry, it's not going that far.

I raise my body and look around. Umu, the interior of the building is clearly not of Japan. I try to grip and open my hands. Ummu, no problem. I get down the bed. Umu, nothing's wrong with moving around. But there's just one little thing.

"My height...isn't it short?"

"Ugwu."

Gune clogged his words.

Yes, my previous height was 176CM. Now it's only around 150CM. Even if I was 15 year old, I should have been 160CM....

"I-It's cause it used my body as the base. That's why it followed me as the standard."

"In other words?"

"I was that small when I was 15 year old. But but, I got taller on my third growth period!"

It appears Gune's race has three growth periods, and they grow taller than 180CM on the third growth period. However, they're quite small until that.

"I'm the base of that body, but since it matches you quite well, it should gradually grow bigger.... probably. B-but, you should be perfectly fine doing that deed, so don't worry. I was that big when I had my first child...."

The former demon lord speaking without confidence. Well it's fine though. Rather, he was already a parent when he was this small huh, that's amazing.

"Then, now that you understand, I'll explain the present situation."

--We're presently in a forest at the western part of Taikun Dukedom. It seems

there's five big nations currently in this continent.

Alentia Kingdom in the center.

Orocina Empire in the north.

Hinoto Empire in the east.

Oltana Federation in the south.

Taikun Principality in the west.

In addition, there are also small countries that get gradually absorbed by the major powers.

"Huh? By west, isn't it near the demon lord territory that you governed as you told me earlier?"

"Yes! At present, there's no one who's working as a demon lord and the political situation there has become very unstable!"

Don't say that so radiantly! He doesn't have face since he's a ball though.

It seems the territory of this guy who was called Western Demon Lord has been divided into parts by his three former subordinates.

These three seem to not get along well so they become the restraints for each other, and thus the situation hasn't influenced this dukedom.

Oh right, he's called Western Demon Lord since, in this continent, there are countries ruled by demon lords that surround the five countries on all four directions. Some coexist well, some have repeating skirmishes.

By the way, the hit ma.... I mean, the hero who was sent to Gune seems to be an another world hero summoned by Alentia Kingdom. They seem to be a blond European, so they're most likely not a Japanase.

<TLN: The author doesn't actually specify the hero's gender. So the 'they' here signifies gender neutral, not plural.>

"What about religions, how is the situation? I don't wanna get close to places with strong religious presences, so tell me about it."

"Fundamentally, people believe in six Gods. Of course, we demons also believe in those Gods. It's not like the thing in your memory where demons = evil god you see."

Muu, he said what I thought preemptively.

It seems the Creator God has entrusted the six pillar Gods to manage this world, they're always protecting this world.

The six pillar Gods are

God of Military and War Aren

God of Wisdom and Business Ordis

Goddess of Life and Harvest Ametoris

Goddess of Death and Fate Hadin

Goddess of Growth and Talent Levelitt

Goddess of Spirit and Principle Rutia

The woman ratio sure is high, Gods. I selfishly imagine that the two male Gods must be feeling intimidated.

A fight is all about number, big bro!

Back then, a newbie-kun who offended an aunty quickly resigned in tears due to the intensity of that you see. Really scary.

"Now then! Why don't you try to appraise your long-awaited abilities?"

"Oh? I can do that?"

"Yup, your eyes are outfitted with 【Discerning Magic Eyes】! They're something special that would let you see the data in your mind if you focus at something while thinking you want to appraise it!"

"You've gone and done something opportunistic again. But, I'm grateful for that consideration."

No really, I'm thankful in this respect. I think being able to check various status is a huge advantage.

As instructed by Gune, I stare and focus at my own hand. Computerized status of myself flows into my head. I see. My status is like these.

Name: Nobusada Izumi - Gender: Male - Race: ???

Class: Otherworlder Lv1

Title: Unset

HP: 13/13 MP:4/4

【Skill】

Etania Native Language - Differing Soul Connection Lv1 - Magic Development Lv1 - Housework Lv5 - Agriculture Lv3 - Swordsmanship Lv1 - Disguise Lv2

【Inherent Skill】

Discerning Magic Eyes Lv1

【Title】

Otherworlder - Able to freely change class. Always active just by possessing the title.

Candidate of Next Generation Demon Lord - One who holds the possibility to become the next generation demon lord.

One who Surpasses Mom - A title given to one who has mastered housework.

"Well well, quite an interesting line up isn't it. Ah, for now, you're quite ordinary, so be careful not to easily die okay. There's no Continue. Also, please be advised that we do not accept claim, return, and cooling-off."

"There's a lot of things I want to retort, but first, this race! Am I not even a human?"

"Maybe it can't be displayed since your Magic Eyes's skill level is still low. I can't grasp what you've turned into too y'know."

The other things are problematic too. I don't know what this Differing Soul Connection even is, and there's even Magic Development. In the first place, I don't even know how to use magic y'know?

"Well, you might have to fumble around, just keep at it okay. I'm going to sleep inside your magic eyes from now on, so do your best not to die! Well then, adios!!"

The glass marble gradually turns into particles of light.

"Wait a minute! Don't just leave after dropping that addendum!"

I retorted in a hurry, but the light changed into particles of light and then Gune disappeared into both my eyes.

"O-oy, Gune!?"

There's no response even after I called him. Looks like he's left me alone in the hut.

Chapter 4: Nobusada Still... Hasn't Stood on Bare Earth Yet

"First, I should check the situation...."

I muttered alone even though there was no one that'd respond, for now let's look around and find something useful.

It's not that big of a house, but it feels wide with this body. I have no choice but to get used to this odd feeling huh.

Oh, there's some kind of letter and a rucksack on the desk.

--Dear Sir Nobusada-sama

Another world where you don't know left and right. How are you holding up there? Well, you've just arrived and all though.

Right now, you must be dumbfounded after I ended it with a simple explanation. I'm sorry, I didn't have much time you see. That's why I left this letter.

The goods on this desk are things I've prepared to support your life from now on. Truthfully I wanted to prepare a lot more things but these were the best I could manage.

You probably will question how I could arrange these things after I got killed, but we'll go there in time okay. (laugh)

At any rate, unlike earth where you lived until now, life is valued lightly here so be careful okay. Basically you have to rely on yourself to protect yourself. Well then, have a nice trip.

Yours sincerely--.

He's flippant even in a letter. But these cordial departures gift is really nice. If this were a certain national RPG, I would've to make do myself after getting some paltry amount of money.

Now then let's see what we have here. Oh right, I could do appraisal thingy. Let's use it at once.

Iron Sword

Quality: Average - Enclosed Mana: 0/4

Seems to be a normal sword. Thankfully it's of iron. It wouldn't be funny if I had to do with a cypress stick like in a certain national RPG.

Iron Knife

Quality: Average - Enclosed Mana: 0/0

I should use this as a spare weapon to skin or peel some common materials and such. I don't understand what this Enclosed Mana thing that has been appearing is.

Magic Rucksack

Quality: Good - Enclosed Mana: 4/4

Note: Able to store up to 80KG of thing - Slow deterioration of thing put inside the rucksack

Currently it has flint, whetstone, dried meat and a water bag inside, 2KG in total.

It's similar to that thing a certain futuristic raccoon dog robot has huh.

This is the first time the item's Enclosed Mana has quantity. This is probably what makes a magic item distinctive.

For now let's deem it as such. I dunno if it's true either.

Potion x 3

Quality: Average - Expiration Date: 1 year

Why does it have expiration date! Is this because of my Housework skill!?

In the first place, it's pointless since I don't know the manufactured date!

Now that you mention it, in many stories or games, the characters drink potion with no problem, but if it has expiration date, I wonder why they don't have upset stomach.

Map

Material: Parchment - State: Coarse

Note: A map of Gramada Region in Taikun Dukedom

It's quite degraded, I've got to be careful handling it.

Since it was prepared by that guy, it's probably a map of the area around here.

The X mark drawn in this map is probably this place. It's drawn inside a desolate forest after all.

I guess these are all the notable items. Oh, it seems there's money in this

small sack. Wonder if I can appraise this one too.

Gold Coin x 30 - Silver Coin x 50 - Copper Coin x 940

Quality: Genuine

Genuine quality uh.... Ummu, there might be people who forge them since we're not in a modern world. Phew, it'd be troublesome if I got caught for having counterfeit money, I should regularly appraise them. Appraising things doesn't decrease my MP, it's quite convenient.

Er, according to Gune, the currency of this world is.

1 copper coin = 1 mani = around 10 yen

1 silver coin = 100 mani

1 gold coin = 10,000 mani

1 soul silver coin = 100,000 mani

1 white gold coin = 1,000,000 mani

In other words, he casually left me a little over 3 million yen....

Even carelessness has its limit, think about common sense!

A coward I am, I immediately put them into the rucksack. Rather, it's scary to carry all you have with you.

These are all things on top of the desk huh.

The other rooms here are only a kitchen and a living room. Quite a bit of dust has piled on them, I wonder if they've been neglected for a long time. There's neither food nor drawn water.

However, looking outside the windows, this place is inside a forest. I might end up getting lost if I carelessly go out.

For now, I'll dust them off quickly to make them livable. Fortunately, the kitchen knife, pot, and furnace seem usable.

After dusting them off for about 30 minutes, they're ready to use now. Looks like there's some firewood in stock too.

Now that I've secured a base, albeit a temporary one, next I should go investigate the surroundings.

I can't deny the possibility of suddenly encountering a bear-san though, so I'm going in full gears.

That reminds me, the clothes that I'm wearing are relatively thick. Rather, this is all I have. I'll take good care of it....

Chapter 5: Nobusada Stands on Bare Earth

After tidying up the hut, I immediately go outside.

Shouldering the rucksack, with sword in hand, I commence the investigation of the vicinity. There might be things that I can't touch with bare hands, so I've put some old rag in the hut into the rucksack. Now I can gather anything.

For now, let's appraise everything I see.

Hira Grass

Ingredient of Potion. You can expect some healing effect just by chewing it raw. But, it's bitter.

Gedo Grass

Ingredient of Cure Potion. You can expect some detox effect just by sticking it on the affected part or chewing it. But, it's very bitter.

Do these taste explanations keep appearing because of my Housework skill? But well I am currently putting them in my mouth.

I spit them out immediately though.

I don't know what will happen in the future, so I gather these grass by wrapping them with an old rag, pulling them by the roots, and then putting them into the rucksack. I might be able to sell them in a city, or maybe I can even make potion myself once I've learned how to make one. I'd like to spread my antenna wide like this. You don't know what'll come out of it after all.

"Oh is this...Akebi...?"

<TLN: Akebia quinata.>

The fruit that I picked up looked similar to an akebi, but there was something obviously different compared to the one from earth. I inadvertently tilt my head in puzzlement.

Akebi 48

A slightly sweet-tasting fruit, but it has a bit too many seeds making it hard to eat. A variant that always has 48 fruits in a tuft. Once the season is over, the fruit graduates from the tuft one by one. Whether the fallen fruit will bud or not, depends on each fruit.

No comment please. For now, I'll pluck off all the fruits I can. Amen.

I also found bananas, oranges, and mangos. It made me doubt the ecosystem of this forest, but since it's not harming anyone, I decide not to mind it.

When I think about it, these earthen fruits commonly exist here, I wonder if this world is related with Earth somehow. Perhaps it's similar to the relationship between me and Gune. I keep diligently gathering fruits and herbs while thinking about that. My nature is that of a poor man....

"Hm?"

Was it just my imagination? I had a feeling like there was something....

"Just my imagination huh."

And just when I bent down to resume gathering herbs.

BAM, something hit me on the back.

"HYOWAAAA"

I reflexively screamed strangely due to the sudden event as I rolled forward once. That was close, I was about to get stabbed by my own sword.

I turn back and visually check the thing that bumped into me.

There is a green globe (?) jumping around.

I appraise that globe while inhaling my breath.

Moss Ball Lv 1

HP: 4/4 MP: 0/0

A monster that inhabit forests. Ecology unknown.

M-moss ball!? The one from Hokkaido? Why is it a monster? Shouldn't the first monster be slime or goblin? Moss ball.... The souvenir from Hokkaido that's said to be actually handmade by aunties and made 100 millions or something annually. To be honest, after watching that, my impression about moss balls in souvenir shops changed. Of course I didn't buy them.

No wait, that's an enemy. At the very least, it's not an imitation made by an auntie.

The moss ball is ramming itself toward me like a super ball without letting out any sound.

It was quite fast but I was able to barely evade it, it hit the tree behind and

rebounded.

Bounce, I reacted hurriedly to the dull sound and bent over to evade it again.

And then, bounce, bounce, the moss ball jumped up and down while rebounding. Is it gradually speeding up?

Should I cut it by matching the timing? No way, no way, it's impossible for an amateur to hit that with a sword, I only believe I could.

In desperation, I strongly grip my sword and hold it in front of me. I hope it gets tired soon so I can attack it..... Huh? Can a moss ball get tired?

Bounce bounce, bounce bounce, splat.

Splat? The moss ball that's been cut in two falls on the ground. The fallen moss ball disappeared into particles of light.

"Oh, is this really ok. A godsend victory like this...."

Tereretettette~♪ Nobusada leveled up.

An announcement with fanfare played in my head. Where did it come from!?

It sounded like a woman's voice.

It happens often in games, but when you actually experience it yourself, it's quite a horror.

Since there's nothing I can do about it, let's check my status for now.

Name: Nobusada Izumi - Gender: Male - Race:???

Class: Otherworlder Lv2

Title: Unset

HP: 16/18 MP: 8/8

【Skill】

Etania Native Language - Differing Soul Connection Lv1 - Magic Development - Houseworks Lv5 - Agriculture Lv3 - Swordsmanship Lv1 - Disguise Lv2

<TLN: For some reason, Magic Development has no level here. Probably a typo.>

【Inherent Skill】

Discerning Magic Eyes Lv1

Oh! It really went up. Wonder why, I feel somehow happy even though I only leveled up by one.

Then it suddenly hit me, maybe that fanfare was rang by the Goddess of Growth and Talent Levelitt? She controls growth after all.

After encountering the moss ball, I had confirmed that there are monsters for sure in this forest, so I decided to go back to the hut for now. To be honest, it was because I felt that I really was just a frail child of modern era who's weak against pain.

After taking some rest inside the hut and having confirmed my HP recovery, I look for prey while trying not to stray far from the hut. If possible, I hope the prey is the seemingly weakest monster, Moss ball. I recall the days my younger self playing a certain national RPG where I stayed in the initial map killing slimes and goblins until I got to level 10.

I found the moss balls camping inside a thicket after searching for five minutes. There's three of them.

Three moss balls huh.... If I can kill one of them, I should be able to deal with the other two if I go at it calmly. But how do I get close without them noticing? I tried to simulate it in my head, but I couldn't get it right.

I accidentally spotted a moderately sized stone below. Maybe I could distract them if I throw this?

I've got nothing to lose anyway, might as well give it a go. I can safely escape as long as I keep my distance. I'll hide in the hut if things look dangerous.

After my optimistic side wins, I take action. While being careful not to get noticed, I threw the stone at the moss balls with all my might.

Zubish!

The stone made a clean hit on one of the moss balls. And then it stopped moving.

Tettere~♪ Learned skill 【Throwing】 Lv1.

I had no spare time to worry about the announcement ringing inside my head. The moss ball I hit has stopped moving, but the other two are heading here. These guys are the type that can link together huh.

Next, I took out a knife in my rucksack and threw it at another moss ball. Oh, it felt like I threw better than I did earlier somehow.

Stab!

The knife lodged in the moss ball. Looks like it hasn't died, but it seems to have lost its balance as it rolls on the ground instead of jumping.

I pick up the sword I left sticking the ground and slash the last one.

Slice!

The iron sword I swung from above cut the moss ball in two without resistance.

My body feels obviously lighter compared to the first battle. Looks like this is a world where the effect of level up is remarkably obvious.

"Oops, not good. Gotta deliver the finishing blow to the last moss ball."

If I don't finish things off, someday I'm the one that would be finished instead. I cut the rolling moss ball, ending it properly.

Tereretettette~♪ Nobusada leveled up.

I'm grateful for the level goddess for doing her job, but it sure weakens the tension.

Well, I can't be spoiled. Let's appraise myself at once.

Name: Nobusada Izumi - Gender: Male - Race:???

Class: Otherworlder Lv4

Title: Unset

HP: 28/28 MP: 32/32

【Skill】

Etania Native Language - Differing Soul Connection Lv1 - Magic Development Lv1 - Houseworks Lv5 - Agriculture Lv3 - Swordsmanship Lv1 - Throwing Lv1 (New!) - Disguise Lv2

【Inherent Skill】

Discerning Magic Eyes Lv1

It's the throwing earlier huh. It's plain but useful.

Err, isn't the MP growth strange?

It's increasing by a factor of two.... W-well, for now let's not mind it. I can't use magic anyhow. Wonder if I could clad my weapon and body with mana. It's one of the classics, isn't it.

To live is to try. Mana mana.... Muu, ah, I might feel something warm and fluffy around the point below my navel.

Tettere~♪ Learned skill 【Mana Clad】 Lv1.

Eh!? I was just trying to see if I could y'know? Just how good is this body's affinity with magic.

Looking closer, I feel like I see something faint covering my whole body. Is this mana? As for my weapon.... Looks like it doesn't cover that one yet.

I wonder if the strength of my punch increases in this state? You often see it in manga, the moment they punch, BAM, a tree breaks down.

BAM!

"Owowowowow"

I hurt my wrist.

Afterward, as a result of several rounds of battle against moss balls, magic clad currently only raised my defense slightly. I also learned that it went up to 5.

For now I'll get back once I'm done gathering some edible wild grass.

Chapter 6: Magical Boy Nobusada's Bombastic Birth

It's already evening when I got back to the hut. My fault for getting too absorbed into picking the mushroom. I mean, I couldn't help it when Maitake and Shimeji mushrooms were that abundant.

The dinner is slightly luxurious since I've secured enough ingredients. It's a full course of mushrooms, wild grass and various fruits, the only weak point is the fact that salt is the only flavoring.

Fortunately I have Appraisal, so I don't need to worry about poisonous mushroom.... I think. I've prepared Gedo Grass on the table side just in case. So I could chew it immediately if it looks dangerous, yup.

"Phew, I'm full. It turned out better than I thought."

Wonder why, the umami came out well even though I only used salt. However, I feel like I'll get tired of this soon enough, I've got to take some kind of measures. Well, I'm going to leave this place someday, but being able to procure food is great.

That said, I can't keep doing this forever, I should leave soon.

I need to get ready for that.

First, let's check my status once again.

Name: Nobusada Izumi - Gender: Male - Race:???

Class: Otherworlder Lv5

Title: Unset

HP: 33/33 MP: 64/64

【Skill】

Etania Native Language - Differing Soul Connection Lv1 - Magic Development Lv1 - Houseworks Lv5 - Agriculture Lv3 - Swordsmanship Lv2 (up!) - Throwing Lv1 - Disguise Lv2 - Magic Clad Lv1

<TLN: Changed telepathy to connection.>

【Inherent Skill】

Discerning Magic Eyes Lv1

Oh, Swordsmanship leveled up. Things should get a bit easier now.

And another thing that I've been trying since I was eating. The explanation of Otherworlder title when I appraised it the first time was like this.

(Able to freely change class. Always active just by possessing the title.)

In other words, I should be able to change my class somehow. There might be skills that are easier to get with a particular class, it might even be not possible to learn magic if your class isn't Magician or something.

"Class change, class modify, job set, transform! Nuuu"

I probably look like an idiot. What should I do to change class....

The moment I thought that, data flowed in my head.

"Uooooou"

That was surprising. Guess I just need to wish to change my class.

The displayed information is like this.

Combatant, Fist Fighter, Monk, Magician, Merchant, Farmer, Househusband

Househusband hey. Just how far my body suited with housework.

Right, first I need to level up Monk and Magician among these, and learn magic if possible. Monk will most likely learn healing magic. In this situation where I don't know left and right, I can only rely on myself. I think getting a mean to heal and a way to do long-ranged attack are essential.

It's not like I know for sure that I'll be able to use magic if I change my class, or even learn it, but there's a merit in trying. It's probably a bad idea to keep my class be Otherworlder forever.

I went to sleep in the first day while thinking about my plan tomorrow.

"Kuaaa, my whole body aches...."

As expected of young body, I got muscle pain immediately. I wipe my body after lightly stretching myself. After having light breakfast with some fruits, I immediately go to infringe moss balls.

Alright! It's a fine weather today too! Let's do them in! Whoops there, that went weird.

I change my class to Monk. It felt like using your finger to operate a tablet inside your head.

Hm? My body felt slightly heavier the moment I changed my class to Monk. This must be because I changed to a low level class. There is no change with my HP and MP though. I utilize Magic Clad in order to lower the chance of getting hurt even a little.

Now then, let's look for those green things.

It'd be nice if I had Enemy Search skill. I can probably learn that from Thief or Hunter class. I don't understand the condition to liberate a class, but it probably has to do with weapon skills from bow and dagger. The knife I have in hand seems unreliable, I'm going to try it once I've gotten some better one someday.

I run after and cut down moss balls while thinking. Completely different to my first battle yesterday, I clearly grasp that I've gotten somewhat used to combat and that my own body moves better.

However, a monk who chases enemy around with sword in hand huh.... This is more like a certain exorcist.

Before long, I might even start saying, "AAAAAAAAAMEEEEEEEEEEN". No, I'm not gonna do that though.

It's already been one hour since I started hunting by throwing things to weaken and then cutting them.

Then an announcement rang in my head when Monk leveled up to level 3.

Tettere~♪ Liberated Holy Magic Lv1

Mu, liberated instead of learned? Dunno what makes it different. I want to try it at once, but I wonder if there's some kind of spell for it. It feels a bit embarrassing when I'm doing it myself.

I'll scratch my fingertip and try it.

"Ouch.... Now then, ke*ru, ho*mi, first*id, heal, p-pain pain go away~"

Faint light emitted when I said heal. And then my wound disappeared. Good, it's not a magic that would get me sued by a rectangular company.

Name: Nobusada Izumi - Gender: Male - Race:???

Class: Monk Lv 3

Title: Unset

HP: 37/37 MP: 68/70

【Skill】

Etania Native Language - Differing Soul Connection Lv1 - Magic Development Lv1 - Houseworks Lv5 - Agriculture Lv3 - Swordsmanship Lv2 (up!) - Throwing Lv1 - Holy Magic Lv 1 (new!) - Disguise Lv2 - Magic Clad Lv1

【Inherent Skill】

Discerning Magic Eyes Lv1

Fumu, the heal just now consumed 2 MP huh. The cost/performance is quite good despite being an initial magic. Can I freely change the output? I feel like I can since I have Magic Development. Gotta try it once things calmed down.

Oh right, the abnormal growth of my MP really seems to be because of the characteristic of my standard class, Otherworlder. I don't know whether it's just me or if it's also true for other summoned people.

Now that I've learned healing magic, next let's work out the attack magic. And then I'll investigate the other classes' usability.

I change my class to Magician at once. Uoo, my body feels even heavier

compared to Monk.

Nevertheless, I still have to do this. I somewhat feel that the Magic Clad's output has increased too.

Hahhahha, here comes a magician of physical faction! I'm not gonna stop cutting despite the moss balls' screams!

Oops, some strange switch got flipped on. Prudence prudence.

Two hours later.

Tereretettette~♪ Magician leveled up to level 4.

Tettere~♪ Liberated Elemental Magic Aptitude Lv1

Every moss ball that came into my view became my nourishment. I'm sure I've hunted the moss balls around here to near extinction.

And, Magic Aptitude? It's not something easy to understand like ** magic huh.

No wait, does it mean that I can use magic freely as long as it's within the range of the aptitude level? Umu, I don't really understand. I'd like a user manual please.

Well, let's try this at the hut. I'm tired since I was hunting in strange tension, it's also just about right to have lunch.

Tettere~♪ Acquired Title 【Moss Ball Killer】.

Eh? What's this?

【Moss Ball Killer】 One who slaughters moss balls. Natural enemy of moss balls. Gain damage+ whenever you attack a moss ball type monster.

...Looks like I overdid it. I beat 50 moss balls since this morning after all. In the first place, the problem was that there were just too many moss balls around the hut.

I'm having lunch with the leftover in the pot from yesterday. I'm checking the things that bothered me in the battle earlier while eating.

Apparently, Monk and Magician need a lot more experience points compared to Otherworlder. Or perhaps, it's just that Otherworlder is easier to level up.

Ah, I can use Holy Magic even when my class is Magician. If I can manage elemental magic well, I might be able to use it to raise money once I leave this hut.

After the meal, I resume experimenting with magic.

"But, trying it one by one sure is annoying."

I just wanted to complain even though no one would hear it. Right, I'll go look for books about magic or someone who can teach me when I get to a city. If someone saw me doing this, I'd probably get treated like the worst oddball.

"Fire, flame, burn.... wrong huh."

I'm reciting common magic names. Other than those, there's also magic-like magic names.

"Fire ball, fire arrow, fire lance...."

I somehow felt the movement of mana when I said Fire Arrow. The reason why it didn't activate was probably because I didn't imagine enough.

I put a target in an open place that won't cause forest fire, slightly apart from the hut.

I concentrate on the target and release the magic name.

"Fire arrow!"

Along with the powerful words, an arrow of fire manifested before my eyes and went straight to the target.

BOOM

The arrow of fire magnificently hit the target, and the scattering remains of the target flew in the sky.

BECHON

"UOAAAAAAAAA, HOOOOOT"

The scattered target.... garbage such as banana peel and scraps flew onto my head. Moreover, it reeks because it was burned!

I wonder if it's a natural retribution for my laziness. I used heal since it did me some damage.

....I won't go bald will I? Sob.

Checking again, it seems that arrow-type magic consumes 3 MP. Nothing remarkable about its cost/performance.

As a result of repeated testing afterward, I confirmed that the magic could be activated using ** Arrow.

Water is Aqua, wind is Wind, earth is Sand. Lightning and Ice didn't work, not sure if it was because it's just not possible or because my level is too low.

Fire and wind are good for battle. Sand Arrow was questionable. It was really questionable. I said it twice since it was really weak. It's not like I dislike earth elemental, but I think it's too hard to use.

I'm thinking of getting even with earth magic by becoming able to create countless earth spears or something someday.

Thud

Uoo, I used quite a lot of MP in the magic experiment, my head feels dizzy. Is this a sign of MP exhaustion.

If I'm not careful about this, it'd create an unforeseen mistake in battle.

Let's end this here today. I'll level up Combatant while also gathering food tomorrow, and then I'll leave this place the day after tomorrow.

This body is at the peak of youth. It really makes me want to eat meat and rice so much. I'd like to keep the dried meat as an emergency ration, they're also dull tasting. Now that I've come to another world, I want to eat manga meat and dragon steak with blood dripping on it. And, as a Japanese, it's only natural to want rice.

Wonder if there's rice in this world. If it doesn't exist, then well, if they can summon Japanese, then they should also be able to summon rice seed. It's scary that I want it so much, I'm willing to go that far.

I fell asleep while thinking such stupid things.

Chapter 7: Found Animal Ear-san

"Such fine weather. What a nice morning to start a journey!"

I feel like I've been talking to myself a lot more since I came here. It's not because I'm lonely okay.

I saved up food while leveling Fighter's level yesterday. I gathered a lot of things like aralia's sprout, fiddleheads, bracken, and such, there was no sense of season at all. Of course along with various fruits. That reminds me, there was a type of fruit I had never seen before.

Ramputun Fruit

A sweet fruit with thorny rind. The flesh in the inside is smooth.

Besides for consumption, it's also an ingredient for making nutrient, it can be sold at a good price.

Keep it a secret that I hoarded a lot of it because I was attracted by the price part!

I'm finally departing under this clear weather! I stayed too long though!

Ah, my current status is like this.

Name: Nobusada Izumi - Gender: Male - Race:???

Class: Fighter Lv4

Title: 【Moss Ball Killer】

HP: 55/55 MP: 82/82

【Skill】

Etania Native Language - Differing Soul Communication Lv1 - Magic Development Lv1 - Houseworks Lv5 - Agriculture Lv3 - Swordsmanship Lv2 - Throwing Lv1 - Holy Magic Lv 1 - Elemental Magic Aptitude Lv1 (new!) - Disguise Lv2 - Magic Clad Lv1

【Inherent Skill】

Discerning Magic Eyes Lv1

I've put on 【Moss Ball Killer】 as my title.

To be honest, the only titles I have that look usable are only this and 【One who Surpasses Mom】. Then this one is still the better. It's effective when moss balls come out after all.

Now then, I decided to head toward the east direction I inferred by looking at the sun. I continue to advance while cutting grass so I can get back if I make a mistake. Moss balls might come out too.

Slice slice

After walking for about two hours.

I can only hear the sound of me cutting the grass around. I keep walking forward while re-hydrating myself by stuffing my cheeks with a mango I found earlier.

Mumu!?

I saw something that looked to be the forest's exit when I was getting tired of this. I think I can see an open plain beyond it.

Claang, cliing

"Hm?"

I heard sounds of metal hitting metal. Is this a fight!?

It's probably not with Moss balls, but a fight between something who use

weapons.

I head toward the source of the sound while consciously erasing my presence behind trees.

As I got closer, I saw two people fighting a group of goblin-like monsters.

My eyes opened wide when I saw their appearances! Animal...ears!!

My long-awaited animal ears. Of course they also have tails. A cat-like woman and a fox-like woman are having a hard time fighting goblins. One of them, Cat-san (temp name) seems to have hurt her leg, Fox-san (temp name) is fighting while protecting her, the situation doesn't look good.

As someone who intends to become Mofumofu King, I must help them. However, I'm a chick who have just been in another world for four days after all is said and done. There's a high chance that I will drag them down instead if I come out suddenly here. First, let's analyze the opponents' fighting force.

Goblin Leader Lv5

HP:20/20 MP:1/1

Goblin that leads a group of goblins. A kind of monster.

As female goblin does not exist, it makes use of women of other races to breed, a vilified being.

It has high propagative power, it can create a colony at a dreadful pace, thus it's always wanted for subjugation.

Goblin Soldier Lv4 x 2

HP:16/16 MP:0/0

Goblin soldier. Abbreviated.

Goblin Archer Lv3 x 3

HP:11/11 MP:0/0

Goblin archer. Abbreviated.

A group of goblins with an average level of 4 huh. There's six of them remaining. They're of human type, but they're monsters no matter how you look at it.

Since the girls have cut down several goblins already, they probably wouldn't have a problem if it were not for that wound.

First, I need to keep their attention away from me. I pick a nearby stone and swing my arm.

Fortunately, they don't seem to notice me, so I can hurl it with all my might.

Eat this! I throw the stone while praying that it'd be nice if it was a gyro ball that sent out a tornado!!

FUSHUN!

The stone flew at a speed impossible for me to reproduce before I came to this world, and hit a goblin.

"Gobua!?"

It sank into the face of a goblin archer in the back row! Looks like it fainted and fell down.

"I'll help you two!"

Fox-san replies while looking surprised at me suddenly calling her.

"Thank you. I'm a magician, careful not to get hit 'kay."

"Got it."

While being surprised by her unexpected Kansai dialect, I threw more stones, distracting the goblins on the rear.

This body has a higher performance than I thought, perhaps it's due to the increased level. The stones hit the places I aimed at, possibly due to the assistance of Throwing skill.

It seems even monsters like goblins get relatively high damage when their heads are hit by stones, two of them have already fainted.

I rushed to where Fox-san (temp) was when I ran out of stones.

"Frankly speaking, I'm not that strong, but I'll be young ladies' shield even if I have to offer this body."

I don't have a shield though.

"Uhihi, getting called young lady by a child feels itchy. Could ya at least protect the girl behind while I'm casting a spell?"

"Understood."

Fox-san began to concentrate on something while dodging. Now then, I'll go to where Cat-san, who can't move, is and fight the coming mobs. I acted cool and all but I could only evade and evade and block with my sword. I countered weakly sometimes.

The level is really different compared to moss balls.

But, I dance like a moth! Prick like a mosquito!!

I provoke the goblins to prevent them going toward Fox-san.

Oh, it seems my provocation worked too well, three of the goblins are coming at me. Even though I have Magic Clad, its defensive power isn't enough to block sword attacks, so I'm getting wounded here and there. Ouch ouch ouch ouch, there's no big wound, but painful things are painful.

Thankfully, the goblins are not that strong, so even I can handle them well without getting fatally hit with my Swordsmanship Lv2.

DOSH

Fox-san shouts when I finally succeeded cutting down a goblin.

"I'm ready, fall back when I signal ya."

"Understood."

"O mana dwelling in all things. Become a stream of flame and burn them down. Fire Storm!"

As Fox-san gave forth words with power, a torrent of fire swallowed the goblins. Ah, the fainted ones got rolled up into it too.

After the flame disappeared, only roasted goblins remain.

Tereretettette~♪ Fighter leveled up to level 5.

Oh, looks like I leveled up too.

Well, I can check it later, for now these two take priority. I wonder if they're hurt.

FLAP

Hm? What?

"Thanks a lot, I don't know who you are, but we're saved. I'm Futsuno. The injured one is Mitama, my little sister ya."

"...Mitama. Thank you for saving us..."

The moment when they were thanking me.

SNAP

"....HINYAAAAAAAAAAAAA"

"Hwou, my my...."

Eh!? Cat-san screamed, fox-san was staring curiously with reddened cheeks at me. Rather, she's staring real hard.

And then I feel refreshing wind on my lower body.... When I timidly looked down, an elephant overflowing with unused atmosphere was peeking between my nether region.

Uooooo, the string of my trousers and underwear got cut.

I hurriedly raise my underwear and trousers and fix the string.

"That was an accident, yes an accident. I have absolutely no interest in flaunting my nether region, please forgive me."

I desperately apologized while being careful with my words. I was also quite perplexed, but I wouldn't have been able to recover if they treated me like a pervert so I got desperate.

"A, aa, I don't particularly mind. Rather, thanks for the feast?"

"....auauau"

Futsuno-san is looking at me while smiling, "pukukuku". On the other hand, Cat-san who's called Mitama is averting her gaze with a reddened face.

"I'm Nobusada. Just call me Nobu."

I tried my best to look as calm as possible, but my face is probably also red. I never thought that my nether region would get fully exposed.

"Then, Nobu-kun. Forgive me for being shameless, but do ya have a medical set? The bandage we had on hands got trampled during that battle earlier."

"Ah, then how about this? I completely forgot I had this in my rucksack since it was so hectic earlier."

I took out a potion out of my rucksack. I shouldn't daringly use holy magic. Since it seems like it'll be a problem if I, who's clearly a Fighter, use healing magic.

"Potion? Ya sure? Ain't that quite pricey?"

Is that true? Its price isn't shown. Well, either way, I don't mind. I don't have something else for this after all. Rather, I can't miss this kind of chance encounter.

"I don't mind. I might have hesitated if the other party were a hopeless old man, but I don't mind at all if it's for beauties like you two."

"Pu, ahahaha, Nobu-kun, you're small but good with flattery. Then, I'll gratefully borrow it."

She opens the potion and sprinkles it on the affected limb. After that, she wraps the wound with a cut-off cloth I brought from the hut. I've boiled the cloth in the hut so there should be no problem with the hygiene.

"Just consider it free. But if you insist.... you could let me touch those fluffy mofumofu ears. Or rather, please allow me to touch them."

Futsuno-san opens her eyes wide in surprises. Huh? Did I say something that surprising?

"....Nobu-kun sure is bold ain't ya. For beastfolks, only family can touch their ears ya know? Once they grew up, even family can't touch 'em y'know?"

"What!?"

"In other words, asking a young female beastfolk to let you touch her ears is the same as asking her hands in marriage ya see."

That cannot be!? If I can't freely touch them, that means the road to become Mofumofu King is extraordinarily steep!? Kuuh, but, I won't shrink back, I won't break, I won't give up! I can't become Mofumofu King if I give up.

I was down on all fours in despair, but I pull myself together and stand up. No good, my emotion is too unstable.

"I'm sorry, I didn't know it was that important. I don't know a lot of things since I just came out of the forest."

"From the forest? You lived in this remote place?"

"Un, it seems I was abandoned in the forest before my grandfather picked me. My grandfather passed away the other day, so I was thinking of going to the city since I had no other relative."

I thought of that excuse in the nights before today. It's a common setting, but this is probably the most reasonable pretext for someone with a child body.

"You've been through a lot haven't ya."

"....nod nod."

Mitama-san nodded.

Mitama-san doesn't talk much does she. No wait, is she on guard because of what I did earlier? That would be very regretful if it was.

"Mitama-san, I'm sorry. Were you offended by what happened earlier?"

Shake shake. She denied with her head.

"Ah, this girl usually doesn't talk much. All the more against an opposite sex. In case of Nobu-kun, I think she's just nervous. Yer' our lifesaver 'fter all."

"...Thank you, you saved us. You can call me Mitama."

Mitama-san said while being bashful. Fuoo, cute.

I thought they looked beautiful from afar, but they really are beautiful looking this close.

Mitama is silver haired, blue eyes. She's equipped with a thin leather armor, carrying a dagger and a small bow. She has a nice body with curves at the right places, her relatively big breasts are not that excessive, but they're only slightly emphasized by the leather armor, damn. Her height is sadly only a little taller than mine.

Futsuno-san is blond haired, green eyes. She's wearing miko-like thin robes with a wand and a dagger. Above all, those emphasized breasts. They're quite voluminous. It's like there's two melons. They were bouncing around boink boink in the battle earlier, my eyes inadvertently wandered to them, keep that a secret. Thanks to it, I got hit when I was captivated by them.....

The two of them are right in my strike zone.... It would be the best if I could form a party with them.

Let's take care of our relationship from now on. Gonna have to thank Gune for dropping me in this place.

"Still though, why were you fighting in a place like this?"

"At first we came here for a gathering quest y'see. When we were about to go back after gathering the required item, that goblin group attacked us. Probably because the target of the gathering quest, Ramputun fruit, is Goblins' favorite."

Hohou, that fruit is liked by Goblins huh. They might have come at me if it wasn't for this rucksack. This kind of information is important.

"I see. Then, what are you going to do now?"

"Since Mitama looks like she can walk thanks to Nobu-kun's potion, we're gonna go back to the town. It'd still take three days even if we go slowly after all."

"If it's okay with you two, could I accompany you? I know the direction somehow from the map, but it would be helpful if I'm with people in the know."

"Ara, that would be helpful for us too. But ya can't do that just cause you're surrounded by two beauties 'kay? Don't wanna get burned ain't ya?"

"Hahaha, of course. I ain't gonna do that without consent, young lady."

"Ahaha, you're sure precocious Nobu-kun. Then, let's strip off the goblin's subjugation parts. If we start now, we should arrive at the post town along the way before the day ends."

Sad to say, Futsuno-san treats me like a child. Well it can't be helped, I'm short after all. Rather, what about my age. Is it going to be of my former age, this body's age, or both added.

No, more importantly, what is subjugation part?

"Subjugation part of goblins?"

"Ah, guess you wouldn't know that too. You collect these left ear and the Soul Stone around the chest of the goblins see."

I watch the two from the sideline and then try it at once. I use my knife to slice off the left ear and look for the thing called Soul Stone. I feel a bit hesitant, but I resolve myself and thrust my hand into the chest.

Hm? I hit something small and hard, is this it.

I caught and pulled out a black crystal-like thing. So this is a Soul Stone. Wonder if this is the same thing as the Magic Stone commonly found in light novels. I'll just regard it as such.

After two and three goblins, I got considerably used to it. It's easier than dealing with a wild boar.

"Nobu-kun, you're quite skillful eh. Ain't ya better at it than us already."

"It's because I have Housework Lv5 somehow. Well, this is far easier than processing a big wild boar."

"H-Housework Lv5!? Why's that high!? And how'd you know inside this forest? Ya can't know your skills unless you have a guild card or let an appraiser appraise ya."

Uwaaao, I've done goofed----. I see, normally you can't appraise things huh. Hmm, what to do.

"G-grandpa had Appraisal skill you see. He saw my skills right before he passed away."

Alright, this should be fine. Should be.

"Is that right. Still, Housework Lv5 huh. You look blinding to us who are catastrophic with housework."

"R-really?"

"Really. Just a while back, the masterpiece Mitama made with all her fibers demonstrated enough power to bring down great many people see?"

"You serious."

"...."

Mitama covers her face with her hands and go "no no".

What's this super cute creature. I wanna take it home.

"Alrite' then. We've completed the gathering and all, let's go back to the city. Now let's, snap snap."

We walk toward the city as urged by Futsuno-san. This person is really a good mood maker.

Chapter 8: Teach Me Futsuno-sensei

Three people are walking on a road. We arrived at a highway-like road slightly away from the place we fought the goblins earlier.

Right now we're heading toward "Gramada" city.

It seems to be the second largest city in this Taikun Principality, and these two's activities are usually centered around the city. The city's most peculiar characteristic is that there are several country-managed dungeons near it.

Dungeons produce monsters and generates treasures out of nothing to lure people into them. Dungeons then absorb the lured people and grow, ultimately, monsters will overflow outside, causing great disasters. Thus, cleaning up monsters inside dungeons is a needed business in areas where dungeons exist.

And when one takes total control of the Dungeon Core that exists in the lowest part of a dungeon, they can stop the dungeon's growth and make it so only weak monsters appear. In other word, it's the most optimal environment for a beginner adventurer.

By the way, in case the core gets destroyed, that dungeon will disappear (apparently the people inside will be forcefully ejected outside).

There are multiple unexplored dungeons around Gramada, adventurers from beginners to veterans have gathered in this city. Thus it's called the "Town of Adventurers", apparently it's quite prosperous.

It's the most suitable city for someone aimless like me. A town called the Town of Adventurers should have various info and documents.

Especially if you're planning to make a killing in dungeons, it's the best place. Because it seems there are occasions where defeated monsters drop treasures or item. The deeper the floor, the stronger the monsters, the higher the probability of them dropping good stuff. Of course it's not that sweet of a deal, as it means you're playing with death or something even worse. Like getting enslaved by monsters while you still have awareness.... Even with all the danger, adventurers going inside dungeons never ceases to exist.

Well, since I also seek strength and money, I would most likely go into one too. In my case, the less people see me doing stuff, the better anyway.

I listened to the two while we were walking.

The two are sisters, Futsuno-san is the elder one. Mitama is her half younger sister. Futsuno-san was the child from her mother's previous marriage.

The relation in the family seemed to be quite good, however, their parents passed away from epidemic around one year ago. That's why they sympathized with my false setting. I'm sorry for that random story.... I didn't mean any harm.

Afterward, it seems the two lived together for a while, but some bad bug creped on these young beautiful sisters.

The third son of the territory lord who were inspecting their village by chance set his eyes on the two. So they really exist, these rotten nobles.

The stupid brat threatened the village elder to give him the sisters, but the elder was a friend of their parents and he secretly gave them traveling expenses and let them escape.

The two decided to be adventures after getting out of the village. Since they didn't know when the stupid brat's pursuers would come at them.

Thankfully, due to the Miko class Futsuno-san learned from her mother, and Hunter class Mitama's father taught her, it didn't take too long until they adapted to adventurer's lifestyle.

They settled in the town around three months ago. Apparently, they judged that the pursuers wouldn't come to a big city far from their hometown.

"Wonder why ya, I usually didn't talk about this stuff. I did since Nobu-san, our lifesaver, asked, but don't go telling it to other people 'kay?"

Not a word my lady, it's a secret between you and me. The slightly bashful Futsuno-san was too cute, my heart skipped a beat.

I hurriedly change the topic since my face feels like it'll redden.

This is a rare chance, so I'm gonna ask Futsuno-san some things I have in mind.

"This is the first time I heard Soul Stones, what are they?"

"Soul Stones are crystals generated inside the body, its size and color changes depending on the owner's strength and magic power. The Soul Stones we got from the goblins earlier are the lowest ranked Soul Stones ya see. Monsters weaker than them won't leave a Soul Stone as it gets destroyed along with them."

Guess the stone gets destroyed in case of Moss Balls, no trace at all. What a joke.

Soul Stones are needed to run Magic Tools so they're always on demand. Thus it makes up for the majority of an adventurer's income.

Soul Stones goes from Black the lowest, to Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo, Purple, and then White. Rarely there's even rainbow colored Soul Stones. It's rainbow since it shines in seven color, it's very rare and sought after as ornament by nobles and such, thus it's very very expensive.

Looks like the size changes depending on the owner's strength and magic power, the stronger they are the bigger the stones.

"Come to think of it, you were surprised about Housework Lv5, but is it that high? I don't understand that part, could you teach me?"

"It's the same with every skill, think Lv5 is about Skilled. I can tell ya some vague comparison, but don't expect a detailed explanation 'kay."

Futsuno-san tabulated it as such.

Lv1 Beginner

Lv2 Novice

Lv3 Professional

Lv4 Expert

Lv5 Skilled Adventurer Grade

Lv6 Knight Captain Grade

Lv7 King Grade

Lv8 Hero Grade

Lv9 Demon Lord Grade

Lv10 God Grade

Yup, how do I take this. Well, individual differences exist even if they have the same skill at the same level, for now, I should just treat it as a target.

That reminds me, I wonder what does other people's status look like. Even though I understand it's not a good thing to do, I'm deeply curious.

Three si.... No no, that's bad. But, I stealthily appraise....

Name: Futsuno - Gender: Female - Race: Beastfolk

Class: Miko Lv15

Title: None

【Skill】

Fire Magic - Wind Magic - Life Magic - Barrier Art - Dagger - Staff Art - Negotiation

Three Size - Unfortunately, your level isn't high enough! (ㄟ ㄎ)

Name: Mitama - Gender: Female - Race: Beastfolk

Class: Hunter Lv13

Title: None

【Skill】

Dagger - Archery - Life Magic - Instinct - Concealment - Night Vision

Three Size - Not good, she'd notice your presence! (ㄟ_ㄟ)

What's with those emoticons! That Gune must be awake doesn't he....

Oh? What is Life Magic? I'm intrigued.

Also, the information is quite scarce compared to when I appraise myself, maybe because my Magic Eye's level is low. The skill level isn't even displayed. Wonder how far I have to level it before I can see skill levels. I guess I have no choice but to appraise everything I see.

That reminds me, I leveled up didn't I, let's see.

Name: Nobusada Izumi - Gender: Male - Race:???

Class: Fighter Lv5

Title: 【Moss Ball Killer】

HP: 42/60 MP: 75/82

【Skill】

Etania Native Language - Differing Soul Communication Lv1 - Magic Development Lv1 - Houseworks Lv5 - Agriculture Lv3 - Swordsmanship Lv2 - Throwing Lv1 - Magic Clad Lv2 (Up!) - Holy Magic Lv 1 - Evasion Lv1 (New!) - Elemental Magic Aptitude Lv1 - Disguise Lv2

【Inherent Skill】

Discerning Magic Eyes Lv1

As I thought, the HP increase of Fighter is nice. MP didn't increase at all though.

Magic Clad has leveled up, wonder if it's because I got damaged while using Magic Clad when I fought the goblins.

I'm glad that I got Evasion without knowing. I'm gonna level this up since I don't plan on equipping a shield or such. It's gonna be effective if I have Instinct skill like Mitama, but I dunno how to get it.

"Nobu-kun, we're about to arrive at the post town. There's only one inn since it's more like a small village tho'."

"I'm glad that we'll likely get there while it's still bright. Futsuno-san, does the town have a general store? I'm thinking of purchasing some supply you see."

"There's one but the line up isn't that nice. I think it's still open at this hour."

"I'd like to shop a bit since I don't have many tools with me."

If possible, I'd like to get various things. It'll be nice if it has ingredients too. Wonder if I can trade with the fruits I picked.

As declared, we arrived at the post town before nightfall. And it's really only big enough to be called a village.

The inn is also not that big. It's only used by people who are going to the forest. Looks like there's quite a few adventurers who visit here for gathering quests and such.

Now then, gotta go to the general store after booking the inn ya. Oops, I got affected by Futsuno-san's accent.

The inn rate was 500 mani. But Futsuno-san was able to lower it with this and that to 450 mani. Yer' good fox girl-san. I'll use her negotiation as a reference.

I parted way with the two who looked tired and headed to the general store they told me.

"Good evening, old lady. May I look at the wares?"

"Aye, please do. We don't have much, but do buy them if you see anything you like."

Looking at an old lady running a shop alone made me recall an old small candy store in the past. Oops, not good, wonder if there's anything good~.

I take the things I'm interested in in my hands.

Some reasonably good stuff are lined up on the shelves.

Oh, there's flour. There's also dried river fish. Appraising them, looks like they're chars.

I bought rock salt, cooking oil, vegetables for three people and two meals, a small pot and various cookwares, several porcelain bowls and several clean cloths. Since I bought a lot, the old lady lowered the price to 730 mani as a service. I felt a bit bad about it so I gave her several fruits, she was quite pleased.

Apparently, things that enter that Rucksack, like fruits and such, deteriorate

slower. Fruits that I took two days ago didn't look withered up at all. I'm gonna make some elaborate stuff tomorrow noon. Gotta prepare a bit of things in the inn.

I return to the inn with a satisfied face.

And then, it's time for dinner.

The inn's meal.... was a black bread and soup. Ok, I didn't expect much, but it looks like the food situation of this world isn't that advanced. Gotta endure until Gramada town. I'm sure some of my expectations will be meet in a big city like it. No really seriously please.

Before I returned to my room, I asked for some hot water and a bucket to borrow from the innlady. They cost 5 mani. A delicate amount that's neither expensive or cheap. I was thinking, 'I'd like to take a bath', while washing my body in the room. Japanese would love to take a bath everyday wouldn't they? It's the second thing I'm unhappy with in this world. The first one? Rice, meat, in other words, the meal....

I'll prepare for tomorrow with the remaining time. It'd be nice if it can please the two.

[Previous Chapter](#)

Chapter 9: What's Life Magic?

Hi, good morning, it's Nobu-sada who woke up before dawn here.

Too early. The light goes out fast in the night here, so my life cycle isn't turning well.

Now that I'm awake, might as well maintain my sword. I had wiped off the blood from cutting the goblin back then, but I completely forgot to sharpen it. I head to the inn's backyard with a whetstone.

I only know how to sharpen kitchen knives, but I can try at least. I gotta learn how to do it properly once I get to the city.

Swipe swipe swipe swipe

I indifferently sharpen the sword.

Swipe swipe swipe swipe
swipe swipe swipe swipe

Umu, shine my iron sword! This iron sword starves for blood this night, kukuku. It's early morning though!

I also polished the knife, shiny.

I finished right at a good time. Wonder what's for breakfast.

Black bread and soup. (´•ω•`)

I don't have anything else to say.

The two sisters got down as I indifferently ate the breakfast.

"Good morning, Nobu-kun."

"....Morning."

"Good morning, you two. Is your injury alright Mitama?"

"....It's fine. Thanks to the potion, I can even run already."

"That's good to hear."

"By the way, the next room where Nobu-kun was was a bit noisy yesterday, what were ya doin'?"

"Ah, please look forward to it later. Futsuno-san, could you tell me the plan for today?"

"Today we just hafta continue along the highway. We're gonna camp tonight."

"Fumu fumu, so we're taking turn for the night watch right?"

"Seyea, Nobu-kun can go last since you're probably not used to it rite'. I'm first, Mitama second, Nobu-kun last."

"Got it, I'm fully prepared. I've had my breakfast so I'm ready to go anytime."

"Then please wait a bit, we're gonna have ours real fast."

"Then, I'll wait outside. You don't need to hurry, take it easy."

I return the tablewares and go outside.

My baggage is only the rucksack and the weapon after all. Any preparation is over fast.

I should think about my plan from now on while waiting for them.

1: Secure a place to sleep once I arrive at the town.

2: Register as an adventurer and secure requests and such. In addition, investigate the dungeons.

3: From the fact that my HP and MP increase with a level up of every class, raising the classes looks to be a nice shortcut for getting stronger.

4: Looking at Magic Clad, putting various skills into practice seems pretty effective, it might be a good idea to develop original magic and skills. I don't know if it'll turn out well though.

5: There's also that SE☆C☆RE☆T, but this is impossible at present. I lack funds and connection. This is a future problem.

6: Since there are ingredients for potion and such in my baggage, I can probably make them myself if I change my class to Alchemist. Looking for someone who can teach me how is a priority.

7: I also want to visit a blacksmith in order to learn how to maintain my arms. Actually, forget about maintenance, I'd like to learn how to make them myself. I want to make a katana someday. I actually have a blueprint for it in my head already, but knowing one is a different story from making one. However, this is a men's romance. Top three weapons I want to make are Japanese sword, shuriken and b*am saber. Eh, the last one is strange? You lose if you mind.

"Oy, what gets you that deep in thought?"

Mu, I didn't notice that the two are ready. Looks like I got too much into it.

"I was just thinking what I should do to earn income once I get to Gramada."

"Since Nobu-kun is very good at housework, I think you'd be in high demand anywhere right?"

"No well, for my main job.... I'm thinking of getting big as an adventurer you see."

"Oh my, then we'd be in the same trade. Maybe I should take this promising young newbie before too late."

"Hahaha, please treat me well senpai onee-sama."

"Kufufu, you really are interestin'. Now then, let's break a leg and go."

"All right."

Toward the king future!

Looking around as we walk, I see that this world hasn't developed at all.

They call it a highway but it's only been minimally maintained (they keep weed out of the path), there's no signboards at all, it makes you doubt whether the road will really take you to the city. To be honest, I'd probably get discouraged if I were alone.

I'm glad I'm with these two.

Even just having silly conversations really help.

Well, I don't have many subjects to talk about though. There's too many stuff I just can't carelessly talk about.

Nevertheless it was a rewarding intelligence gathering. About adventurers, the town's situation, Futsuno-san and Mitama's preferences. Thanks to it, I learned many things.

We're chatting without stopping our legs, advancing on. Still, I can't believe I can walk this far. I'm quite sure I would've gotten worn-out in 10 minutes if it was the me before I came here.

The evolution adaptation is going well. I wonder if my stamina also increased due to the level up.

The sun went right above our heads without anything special happening.

"Futsuno-san, Mitama. Should we take a break and have lunch?"

"Seyea. Well, we've got nothing but black bread and dried meat tho'."

"...They're hard but better than nothing."

"Ah, I'll make the lunch. Futsuno-san and Mitama can wait."

"Oo, yer' serious!"

"I am I am. How about we stop near that hill?"

"Aye aye, yaan, looking forward to it. We usually ate flavorless stuff y'see."

I should ask the two to watch the surroundings as I prepare the food.

That said, I can only make something simple since there's not enough seasoning.

I was making udon dough from the flour yesterday.

I hadn't got that psyched up in a while.

My hands are dyed white with flour! Stretch the dough and roar! Knead with love and gratitude, and get fired uuuup! Noodle! Noodle! Noodleeeeeeeeeee!

I couldn't get into it without doing that.

I crush the dried chars in a cloth. And then I look for dozens of stones at the right size. Yup they're heavy enough.

I build two furnaces with the stones and set a pot and a small pot on them.

I boil the crushed dried chars in the pot. Once it's been simmered enough I pour it to another pot with a cloth on top, creating dashi (stock soup). I crushed the fish to make the dashi easier, of course I'd taken out the entrails.

I pour the dashi into the udon and regulate the flavor with salt.

I mix the edible wild plants I collected when I was in that hut with flour and water and throw them into the small pot with oil.

Edible wild plant tempuras, complete!

Once the udon is boiled, I put it into bowls. I put the tempuras beside the udon, they can eat it as is or put into the udon.

Ah, I crave soy sauce and miso. Let's make them once I settle down. I'll spread the home-made recipe of my grandma's miso in this world!

"Hoi, it's done. Although we only have forks, please enjoy them."

Of course I'm also using a fork. I wanted to eat with chopsticks but since there's no such culture here, I gave up the idea. I'll shave my own chopsticks once I get to the town.

"A-ain't those 『Udon』 and 『Tempura』! They were mom's specialties."

"Hohou, even though I'm not sure if they're as good as Futsuno-san's mother's, let's eat before they got cold."

"Then, let's dig in. Mmugu, so good."

"....zuzuzu, omnomnom."

Mitama ate with undivided attention. Could it be, this girl has Gluttony Element!?

"Nn, good."

Mitama said that while looking at me wistfully. Her cat ears are flopped down, looks like she's absentminded.

"Ah, I still have more. let me have the tableware. I'll put it for you."

"Thank you."

She submits her tableware while grinning bashfully. Oh nooo, I'm falling for her.

The lively meal continues. Futsuno-san says this while we're eating.

"Come to think of it, Nobu-kun's clothes are dirty aren't they? Why don't ya clean them with Clear magic?"

Nu? I don't know that magic.

"What's Clear magic? I never heard of it."

She looked dubious for an instant, but then she looked like she got it.

"Oh yea, you wouldn't get the Baptism when you were 10 cause you lived in the forest."

"Baptism??"

"Seyea, it differs by countries, but at least in this country, once a child turns 10, first their Class gets identified in the guild. Then, once they picked their Class, they get baptized in the temple that suits their Class; it's common knowledge ya."

"Hohou."

"For examples, if you're taking Fighter class then you get Baptism in the 'God of Military and War - Aren' temple, if you're of Merchant class then in the 'God of Wisdom and Business - Ordis' temple."

"By the way, how about the Goddess of Growth and Talent Levellit, which class suits her?"

"Ueea. That goddess. Um, yea er well...."

Huh, she seems extremely hesitant?

"Huh? Is it something bad to talk about?"

"No, it's nothing like that. Un, it is hard to say. That goddess isn't that popular you see."

"Eh!? Really."

"Un, look, with the other gods, the direction is clear and it's easy to believe. Since talent and growth are something you're born with, they can't be changed later on, and above all, the Class itself can't be changed easily anyway, most last a lifetime right? Thus in the end it was biased because of Class."

Hmm, that might be right when you think about it. Rather than growing faster, I guess raising your own potential yourself would be more popular. Well, since people can't raise many stuff easily like me, I guess the bias is only natural. Afterward, I asked her for other examples.

People who aspire to become vanguards choose "God of Military and War - Aren."

People who want to become rear guards or merchants then "God of Wisdom and Business - Ordis."

If it's to do with agriculture and food and drink then "Goddess of Life and Harvest - Ametoris"

People who engage in administration of justice and politics then "Goddess of Spirit and Principle - Rutia"

If it's to do with medical care and funeral, then "Goddess of Death and Fate - Hadin" (Apparently, many people who defy death believe in this goddess).

Umu, the direction is clear.

Benefit of "Goddess of Growth and Talent - Levellit" definitely exists, however since the frontage is too wide, it seems vague and inconclusive. Looks like it's popular to a niche of actors and poets. However, since actors and actresses operate around big cities at most, they never visit rural areas.

Could it be that she's set her eyes on me since she's got nothing else to do due to the lack of believers?

"We got out of topic. Life Magic is something you get when you're baptized you see."

Life Magic is a set of magic that's useful in livelihood, it's a common thing in this world.

The Clear magic she mentioned earlier is a magic to wash away dirt on your body and clothes. There's also Igniter and faint firefly light magic too. Dammit, I looked like a fool for struggling with flints.

"Can anyone receive the Baptism?"

"Seyea, you'd need to set your class if you want to be an Adventurer anyway, doing that is a good idea. But, I think you need 200 mani for Baptism."

My god, there's a fee!

"Un, I think I can manage that much with my saving. I'll ask for it immediately once we get to Gramada."

"That's a good idea. Lemme use it on you. Since you treated us delicious lunch, it's free see?"

A complacent smile with her high canines on display.

"Please do."

Gotta say that right?

"Then here I go. Pure stream, cleanse the body. Clear!"

Oh, some light wrapped me and then the dirt disappeared. There's no need of washing.

How amazingly convenient.

"Thank you, Futsuno-san."

Pull, pull. Hm? Someone's pulling my sleeves.

"....I'll do it too."

"P-please."

Gotta say that right! Right!

"....*murmur*...*murmur*...Clear."

Yup, it doesn't look different, but I feel happy somehow.

"Thank you Mitama."

I put up the best smile I could possibly do and thanked her.

Somehow my heart felt warm and fluffy, even my fatigue got washed away.

Now then, let's go toward the target area before sunset! After tidying up, we walked again.

Chapter 10: The March of Wild Boar

"One~day♪ Inside a forest~♪"

As usual, we're walking on the highway.

"I cooked a hotpot~♪ Made of bear-san~♪"

Futsuno-san, what kind of song is that.

But really, the people of this world sure can walk. I know that people of Edo era were good walkers as it was normal for them to walk dozens of kilometers a day, and these people are similar. Or rather, I'm surprised that I could walk this far myself. Come to think of it I don't see many horses. Maybe cause this is a remote place.

"Me think these much firewood should be good enough."

"Aye aye, you can take some rest now~"

The menu today are boiled gyoza and steamed buns.

I had prepared the gyoza and bun's dough yesterday. Actually, it's just half of the udon's dough, processed.

The meat inside is made from dried jerky. The meat itself isn't that good, but I've dipped it in the dashi stock to change the texture. Ummu, it came out fairly well. I've made the boiled gyoza smallish to make it easy to swallow. On the other hand, the steamed buns are thickish to satisfy the stomach. I'd like to get my hand on better ingredients in the town tomorrow. If there's leftover of the boiled gyoza's soup, we can use it as our meal tomorrow morning after heating it up. Yup, if there's leftover that is....

"mokyū mokyū"

Yes, as you'd expect, Mitama gulped them all.

Futsuno-san also ate a lot. Are all the women in this world like them? But well, as the one who made the food I should be happy that they ate them with great relish.

We rest at the camp once we've had a satisfying dinner. That said, there's no bedding so I just lay down on the ground. Hmm, wonder why. Lying on the ground like this feels nostalgic somehow. Ah yeah, when I was little, I ran out of my house at midnight and gazed at the starry sky like this too. I did some rash things back then. I'm dozing off while recalling that. It seems I'm tired after all. Well then...good...ni...ght....

BURUAAAAAA

AAAAAAAAAAAA

It was a sudden explosive roar.

"Woo, w-what!?"

I woke up and checked the two immediately.

"Aa, you're awake. I was going to wake you up."

"....Some distance away. 300 meter to the north. There's something big."

"Something big? Do you know what it is?"

Shake shake. Mitama shook her head.

"I see, now then, what do you think we should do Futsuno-san?"

"Course!! We're running away!"

Futsuno-san thumbs up at me. I don't have any objection at all, but she sure decides fast!

We get ready to depart in a hurry. We had made it so we could depart anytime. We're dressed lightly and don't have many baggage after all.

In panic, we run at full speed while being careful not to tumble in the pitch black highway.

"...This might be bad, it's coming closer. Straight here."

Mitama muttered when the morning dawn.

"Is it targeting us?"

"...I don't know, but it's going to clash with us soon. Nee-san what should we do?"

"It's obviously faster than us eh. Even if we run at full speed, we don't know if we could outrun it.... huh."

Mitama got lost in thought.

It's imprudent of me, but I thought that a beauty would still look beautiful even when she was lost in thought. Yup, gotta pull myself together. It's a matter of life and death.

"No choice but to ambush it eh. I'll wait here to receive it from the front and start casting a spell. With the magic invocation as the signal, I'd like you two to make a surprise attack from behind the rock."

"Understood."

"Got it."

THUMP THUMP THUMP THUMP THUMP THUMP THUMP

GWOOSH GWOOSH GWOOSH

I understand from the sound that something heavy is coming here, but what

are the gwoosh gwoosh?

I can't check it from behind the rock. I wonder if Futsuno-san alright?

"Manifest! Flame Wall!!!"

Futsuno-san invoked a magic which also acted as a signal. The thing that was running made a sudden break at the wall of flame that appeared out of nowhere. Alright! It's wide open.

Mitama draws her bow. I activate the Magic Clad.

I jump out with sword in hand when Mitama has set her aim.

Futsuno-san shot out a fire arrow from the front.

I stare at the thing while rushing in....

Rampaging Big Boar Lv14

HP:43/84 MP:0/0

Condition: Enraged

A wild boar that became gigantic after getting influenced by Magic Essence. It's not a monster but its degree of danger is authentic.

The meat is rich of protein, it also tastes good. Its fur is useful for winter clothing.

Looking closer, a steel trap that was probably set by a hunter is snared on one of the boar's legs. It was probably enraged by the pain and got us dragged into this.

As I was on the verge of coming into contact with the boar, I felt Mitama's atmosphere behind me changed slightly.

"...Weapon Skill 『Piercing Arrow』...."

The arrow shot from the bow that was drawn to its limit passed by me and rushed on the boar.

The 『Piercing Arrow』 didn't pierce through the boar completely, but it gouged its skin and got stuck in its buttock.

Well then, lemme deepen that wound with my sword!

DOSH!

I push my sword in one go and cut!

BURUAAAAAA

The big boar rampages from the pain and kicks its hind leg with all its strength toward me. However, I couldn't evade it since my sword was stuck in its body.

BAAAAAAAM

"Oh n....GUHA"

The big boar's hoof hit my body, I got blown away backward. The iron sword stuck in its butt fell down.

I couldn't even breathe due to that powerful strike, my consciousness is fading.

No! I hold my trembling knees. Hold it me! I clench my teeth, keeping my

consciousness up!

"Nobu-kun!?"

"Nobu!"

The two are calling me sorrowfully. The two aren't attacking the big boar, probably because they were worried about me. Damn it, I didn't want to drag them down.

I secretly use magic without letting the two hear it.

"....Heal (whisper)"

I kept my hand inside my clothes to prevent the light leaking out. Thankfully I'm wearing black clothes.

Alright, I can still go on.

I can't be the only one lying down when the two are fighting hard against the big boar.

I don't have any weapon. However, I still have my magic.

If its skin is thick, then I just need to strike from inside!

I don't wanna get hit by that counterattack from behind again, but let's do this! Prepare for the counteroffensive! Here I go!

I brace my aching body as I run toward the big boar.

The big boar has retreated to the back to restrain the two.

It doesn't seem like it's paying any attention to me, looks like it considers me to have left the battle.

I thrust my right hand that's been clad in Magic Clad as strong as possible into the big boar's wound. The warm living flesh and slippery blood coil my hand.

BURUMOAAAAAAAAAAAAAA

The big boar is rampaging at the attack that came outside its awareness, I'll finish this now!

"Eat this big guy. Wind Arrow (whisper)."

I invoked Wind Arrow from my thrust hand. The arrow of wind I pictured from Mitama's weapon skill earlier penetrated through the big boar's body from the inside.

Burua...aaaa.....

I pulled out my hand, at the same time the big boar fell down. It seems the wind arrow hit the big boar's heart.

I timidly look at my hand, but there's no obvious injury. It's probably thanks to the thick Magic Clad.

Tereretette...

Oh I guess winning against a more powerful enemy raised my level.... But, I can't anymore. I can barely hold my consciousness, maybe because I almost run out of MP due to the magic and Magic Clad.

I fell down and fainted just like that.

Chapter 11: Finally Arrived at Gramada

When I came to, there were two hills right in front of my eyes!

Yes, it's Nobusada. Apparently, Mitama is letting my head rest on her lap.

What bliss. I want to bask in this lingering memories, but I wonder what happens after that?

I'm sure I finished off the big boar.

"Oh, Nobu-kun, you're awake?"

Futsuno-san peeked here.

"Yea, somehow. Futsuno-san, how long did I lose consciousness?"

"About 10 minutes. Just when I thought Nobu-kun who should've fainted got up and killed the big boar, you fell again, even Mitama was panicking ya know? Don't go and act rashly k'. Nobu-kun."

"Aye, I'm sorry. Are you two alright?"

Looks like the two don't have any serious injury. They're probably anxious since I got blown away in that fashion.

"Still, how did you finish off that big boar? Hey hey, tell Onee-san 'bout it. Hey hey."

"....Nee-san, Nobu just woke up, don't push him like that."

"Uh, yer' right. My bad."

"No, I'm fine already, my head feels clear. I'm reluctant to part way with this lap pillow, but I'll go and get up."

I really am reluctant! But we have to do something about the killed big boar. The bruises on my body still hurt, but that's about it. I had readied myself for some broken bones from the kick, but apparently, Heal was able to heal it. Magic is amazing.

Now, let's process the big boar and the fresh meat.

"Let's dismantle this big boar for now. Would you two help me?"

""Un""

We can think up other things that need to be done while we're working on this.

Helped by the two, I dismantle the big boar. It doesn't have Soul Stone since it's not a monster.

More importantly, meat! Fresh meat!

I diligently process the fresh meat before me while enduring the pain on my body.

After peeling off its fur, I drained its blood and cut the meat by body parts. Looks like they fetch a good price if I bring them to the right place in the town. I wash the intestines with all the water in the water sack and preserve them. I divided the meat into three parts using the cloth I bought. It still weight too much, my rucksack can't hold them all.

Oh yeah, the two were surprised when I told them about the magic rucksack. Since it seemed to be quite expensive, in desperation, I told them that it was a keepsake from the grandfather who raised me.

Thus, we decided that I would carry the expensive parts.

Yet, even after doing all this, there's still too much left. As expected of a big boar. Ah, I've put away the bear trap behind a rock. It was bulky and dented all over, I deemed it unusable.

Can't be helped, let's barbecue the meat that we can't hold! Yes, we're having a barbecue party right now.

"Fuhaa, so good. The boar meat I ate back then smelled gamey, but this one's not too bad at all. Why's Nobu-kun cooking this good?"

"Delishlish"

I wonder why? The benefit of Housework skill? I feel that the meat here tastes better than the one I made in earth back then. Or maybe it's cause this big boar is tasty?

Well, whatever. Right now I'd rather enjoy this meat than thinking that deeply. It's simply salted with sauce made from fruits. I also made a few tempuras from the boar meat. With this I used up all the oil I bought. I couldn't bother with the vegetables so I just chopped them up and made them into meat roll.

"Ah, meat IS nice. Compared to fruits and black bread, eating this feels like power is swelling up in me somehow."

Nod nod, Mitama nodded at me in agreement while stuffing her mouth with the meat. Umu, eat to your heart's content. We have a lot more.

How terrifying.... It was a good meat, but the amount was something I'd never have thought could be eaten by three people. Futsuno-san and Mitama seem very satisfied. Usually Mitama looked like she wasn't satisfied.

We began to walk again after having the meal took up large portion of time. We wasted a lot of time due to the unnecessary battle, but since we departed faster as the result, it seemed to be ultimately a zero sum. Looks like we should be able to get to Gramada before nightfall at this pace.

I look at my status I missed to see after defeating the big boar.

Name: Nobusada Izumi - Gender: Male - Race:General Human?

Class: Fighter Lv7

Title: 【Moss Ball Killer】

HP: 39/70 MP: 30/82

【Skill】

Etania Native Language - Differing Soul Communication Lv1 - Magic Development Lv1 - Houseworks Lv5 - Agriculture Lv3 - Swordsmanship Lv2 - Throwing Lv1 - Magic Clad Lv2 - Holy Magic Lv 1 - Evasion Lv1 (New!) - Elemental Magic Aptitude Lv2 (up!) - Disguise Lv2

【Inherent Skill】

Discerning Magic Eyes Lv2 (up!)

Ooh, my level increased by two in one go. My skills leveled up too! Looking at this, it seems I can regard that Class and Skill are leveled up differently. The Elemental Magic Aptitude leveled up even with Fighter class whose MP doesn't increase after all.

Oh, looking at the race.... I wonder what the '?' after General Human is.

I thought something would happen with the increased level of the Discerning Magic Eyes, but it's more like the liberation of an entry of information?

It probably leveled up when I saw the big boar with it.

The trip advanced smoothly without any trouble afterward. The highway also

gradually became wider and better looking. As I was sensing such small changes, I saw some kind of rampart in the distance.

"Nobu-kun, that's Gramada y'see. The whole town is covered by a huge wall. Only the Avaoak Fort at the westernmost can equal the sturdiness of that. It was made to be sturdy cause it's very close to the demon lord's territory."

"Hohou, considering they made such a secure wall, does that mean this town is that important?"

"Yeap, the territory around here is under direct control of Duke Azbel, it's also a center of distribution of goods. Order of knight is permanently stationed here and it also has security guards, the public order is quiet nice."

Duke Azbel. It seems to be the duke who rules the area around here. His political skill is apparently quite formidable, Gramada has been under good government ever since he came in charge of the town. Futsuno-san doesn't know the inner details, but it seems the ease of living in Gramada has no particular fault. I can expect many things.

We made it to the line for the inspection to enter the city. We're also quickly lining up at the end of the queue.

"You'd need to pay 200 Mani to enter the town. If you don't have an ID, then they'd issue a provisional registration card 'ere. You'd need to deposit 2000 Mani. After you've registered at whichever guild and got yourself a guild card,

you could get the money back."

"By 'whichever guild', are there more than one of them?"

"Yeap, the big ones are the Adventurer Guild and the Commercial Guild. There's also some intermediate guilds for each jobs. Nobu-kun's gonna register at the Adventurer Guild rite'?"

"Let me see, I don't have a connection after all, so that one seems to be the safest bet."

Our turn came as we were talking.

"Oh, the 『Tail of Wind』 pair. You two are safe."

The sentry lightly talked to the two. He seems to be in the middle of his twenties. Comparatively good looking.

"Kyle-han, good work. We managed somehow."

"Everyone's gonna be sad if anything happens to the prominent beauty sisters of the guild. In fact, I'm one of those peeps. How 'bout it, wanna have some drink with me after work?"

"....No."

Mitama, so prompt.

"Not possible, we gotta report to the client and guide this guy. Now, get back to work."

"Mumumu, a man! Where is this guy."

"Me, me. Nice to meet you, Kyle-san."

"Wait, you're just a kid. Ya surprised me."

I'm technically 15 though.... It's probably partially because of my oriental face looking young, but this height is the root of all problem!

"I'm not a kid. I left my hometown to become an Adventurer you see."

"Haha, saying that means you're still wet behind the ears. Well fine, got an

ID?"

"I don't have anything like that since I was raised in the forest. Futsuno-san told me that the Adventurer Guild could issue the Guild Card, so I'm going to make one there."

"Right right, it's the provisional registration card then. Wait a bit."

After saying that, Kyle went to the guard station and came back carrying a small crystal ball.

"Put your hand on this. This thing is called 『Crystal of Conviction』. It'd show us if you have any criminal record in the past through the joint information from the guild. Well, you should have no problem if you lived honestly."

I put my hand on the crystal ball as urged. There's no change on the crystal ball.

"Alright, looks like you have no criminal record."

After saying that, he filled out a ticket like thing. By the way, I was told later that if you had a criminal record, the crystal ball would float.

"Okay then, the toll will be 200 mani, and the provisional registration ID will be 2000 mani. We'd reimburse that one if you came back here after you got your ID issued. Once you've your Guild Card, you'll be exempted of future tolls."

"Okay, here you go."

I took out 2200 mani from my rucksack and handed it to him.

"Got it. This is the provisional registration card, don't lose it you hear me?"

"Thanks."

"Welcome to Gramada, high adventurer-to be. Well, just take care not to get yourself hurt."

He seems flippant, but he's quite good at taking care others. He doesn't seem to be a bad guy. Lemme look at the stats.

Name Kyle - Gender: Male - Race: General Human

Class: Fighter Lv 12 - State: Healthy

Title: None

【Skill】

Swordsmanship Lv3 - Spearmanship Lv2 - Life Magic

I wonder if these much is the standard for guards? He should be able to deal with something like that big boar somehow?

Nevertheless, Kyle? You're a guard, but your eyes have been chasing after Futsuno-san's and Mitama's asses for a while now..... Do your job, guard (laugh).

We set foot in the town with Kyle's leer. Hey Kyle, you're seeing us off while looking reluctant and all, but is that really alright? The people accumulating at the line are looking distressed you know.

"Then let's go until the guild together. Unfortunately, from there we gotta report the quest completion to the client. Truthfully, I wanted to go with you until the end."

"No no, I wouldn't have been able to get here this fast alone, you two are really a big help."

"Really? Come talk to us if you have problem later 'kay. Our regular lodging is the 『Dog of Flame』 inn. You can contact us by sending messages to the innkeeper."

"....The food there is good."

As expected of Mitama, she's unflinching!

"Ah, also, you can sell the big boar's meat and fur at the guild okay? Nobu-kun can have all the one you're carrying."

"No wait, we should divide it into three equal parts...."

"S'fine, you'd need all the money since you're starting up as an adventurer. It's a farewell gift from onee-sans 'k."

"....I have no problem, I like the meat part myself."

Gunuu, this is a huge shock. So that was why they put the expensive parts like the fur in my baggage. I'll definitely return this debt! In good meaning!!

"Well then, c'ya."

"You two, thank you."

I part way with the two in front of the Adventurer Guild. Now that I'm by myself, it feels lonely somehow.

Alright! Gear up, here I go!

Chapter 12: The Guild and Eleanor-san

I opened the door and saw rowdy people at the bar's counter... yeah, not happening, the place looked like an oold public office. I guess it's only right, there's no way you can do your job while drinking alcohol. The clients would have withdrawn their requests too.

I saw an open counter and briskly walked to it. I peeked at the counter, umu, there was an onee-san who fits the image of a beautiful secretary smiling. A splendid business smile.

Wonder what she's like?

Name: Eleanor - Gender: Female - Race: General Human

Class: Magic Fist Fighter Lv30

Title: 【War Princess】

【Skill】

Fist Art Lv6 - Physical Strength Lv4 - Touki (Fighting Spirit) Lv4 - Evasion Lv4 - Danger Sense Lv4 - Life Magic

Three Size: Hold on! You're still too young to lay down your life!! (ㄟㄎㄟ)

Uooh, the guild's receptionist is unbelievably strong. Fist Art Lv6 with those slender arms!?

She looks very slender and dignified, but I'd be in a world of pain if I made her mad.

I'll keep in mind to be polite with her.

"Am I correct to assume that this is the guild's reception desk?"

"Yes, this is the reception desk. Is this your first time here?"

"Yes, I just went out of my hometown. There's a lot of things I don't know, will it be alright to ask you about it in detail?"

"Then I will keep you company, I'm Eleanor. First, registering will cost 1000 mani, would that be alright with you?"

OH, my money is bottoming out fast even though I haven't done anything. Can't be helped, this is an important investment.

I took 1000 mani out of my rucksack.

"Here you go."

"Thank you. Well then, please put your hand on this status board. The data read by this device will be used to make your own guild card."

Nuu, it's gonna read things huh. Me think it'd be bad if my Unique Skill were known? I wonder if I can hide it with Disguise skill? Disguise skill-san, please hide the otherworlder title and my Unique Skill. You're only skill lv2, but do your best!

When I put my hand on the Status Board, it glowed.

FIINN, a small strange sound scratched my ears.

After waiting for about 1 minute, the strange sound stopped and the light disappeared from the Status Board

And then the data got embossed on the board.

Name: Nobusada - Gender:Male - Age:15

Race: General Human - Guild Rank: F

Title: 【Moss Ball Killer】

Criminal Record: None

Phew, looks like it doesn't show skills and such. I'm safe for now. Rather, only the Moss Ball Killer is there. And the age is 15. Is this because of my physical age. With this I can safely answer questions about my age.

"T-this is.... You're a title carrier at your age. It's a wonderful thing for this guild to have a promising person joining us."

No no, I'm nothing compared to you. Moss Ball Killer and War Princess is like chalk and cheese.

"And this will be your guild card. If you lose it, reissuing the card will cost you 50,000 mani, so please take care of it. The reason it costs so much is because there were too many adventurers who lost their cards, the cost before couldn't cover it. Since apparently most were rowdy people, this strict regulation was needed to reform them...."

Equivalent to 500,000 yen huh. Expensive. I'll hang it on my neck so I won't lose it. The guild card seems to be dust and water proof. Relatively high tech huh.

"Then I will explain about rank. Guild rank goes from F, E, D, C, B, A, and S rank. Rank advancement will depend on the number of completed quests and such. There will be an examination to raise your rank starting from D rank. There is a required quest other than the exam when you're raising your rank to C. From C rank on, your character and the evaluation from your party members if you have a party will also be assessed since there are escort missions in the rank. Thus, there are many adventurers who purposely stay at D rank."

Since I will be entering dungeons as my main job, I guess that's fine. Is there any merit in raising my rank?

"First of all, you can take more quests with high reward as your rank increases. In addition, as an adventurer's name become well known, there are cases where they're given nominated quests, a lot of higher ranked adventures receive quests from nobles and countries. As for the disadvantages, the higher your rank the more restricted you are to urgent quests. At times of urgent quests such as monster outbreak, they are obliged to participate in them. If you refuse to, expulsion might be imposed on you at worst, so please keep that in mind."

Muu, sooner or later I'll have to decide whether to postpone or raise my rank.

To be honest, I don't want anything to do with nobles. After all, I'd probably get coaxed and used with my inability to debate.

"Does the rank matter to enter a dungeon?"

"If it's the Fonbran Dungeon at the center of this town, you could enter it regardless of rank. Other than that entering a dungeon whose danger level assigned by the guild might be restricted depending on your rank or the guild's evaluation about you."

I see. In other words, I need to raise my rank in order to make a killing.

"You're exempted of tax if you're registered to the Adventurer Guild. However, there is a tax on every completed quest, thank you for your understanding."

Fumu, it's a good thing that going to another world means not needing to fill the tax return.

"That will be the end of my brief explanation. Is there anything you'd like to ask?"

"Ah, I killed a Big Wild Boar in my journey to this town, is there any place I could sell the fur and meat at? Also, it'd really help if it also accepts purchasing of fruits and other things from the western forest."

"Big Wild Boar!? They can be more dangerous than the average monster, were you alright?"

"Yes, I worked together with some adventurers who were with me and defeated it somehow."

"Was that right. The counter for purchasing is over there, if you kindly please liquidate there. As for the fruits, it will depend on the type. The person in charge should be able to tell which ones can be cashed in."

"Thank you very much. And also, do you know an inn that's just right for a beginner? I'm not familiar with the town yet, it'd be great if you could tell me."

"Ah for that we have a joint beginner inn from the guild. It costs 300 mani a day with morning and evening meals included. A rank F adventurer can utilize the inn as long as there are rooms available, however, you will need to undertake F rank quests for two weeks as a term."

Apparently, many F rank quests involve odd jobs which people tend to neglect. Looks like they're imposing the term to efficiently process those quests. Well, I think it's a good system to familiarize a beginner in. It seems most odd jobs can be done in a day or half a day, it's easy to digest the number.

"Could you help me with the procedure to use the inn? Oh right, I'd like to ask

for the refund of the temp registration card, would that be alright?"

"Yes, then I will process your request. Please line up at this counter once you're back."

"Thank you, Eleanor-san. I'll come back once I'm done with the purchasing procedure."

"Yes, I will be waiting."

I thank the smiling Eleanor-san and head to Kyle's place.

Or not, I gotta bring the wild boar's material to the purchasing counter first.

The purchasing counter was served by a rough old man, so I'm omitting it, omit! The fur and the meat were in good states, so they could purchase it at relatively good price. As for the fruits, they only took ones that could be used as ingredients for medicines and the Ramputan fruits. Looks like I need to take other fruits directly to shops.

And since they're busy today, it seems the assessment will have to be done tomorrow. Can't be helped, after promising to go back tomorrow, I head to the guard station at the west gate.



"Eleanor-senpai, time for shift change. You can take a break now."

"Oh my, it's already that time. Then I'll take you up on that."

"Yes."

I turn over my seat to my junior. I went into the break room inside the guild and recalled the beginner-san just now.

Black hair, black eyes, they're rare in this principality. He's apparently 15, but he looked young from all angles.

『Yaan, yan yan. He's so cuuuuuute, I'd like to take him home if I could.』

Eleanor somersaulted once. There isn't even an atom of the usual cool receptionist, her junior would doubt if it was really her if she sees this.

『I wonder if I was able to deal with him like the usual me, I was seized with an impulse to instinctively hug him! You rarely see black hair and black eyes

around here, so he was really striking. His big round eyes, and the baby face even for a 15 year old net a huge point too.』

Her face loosened, with hanging drool.

『I'm surrounded by old men so he's my oasis. I have to secretly give him advices and prevent him from getting hurt!』

Eleanor gripped her fist and vowed such in her mind.



"Uuh, I felt chilly for a moment there...."

At the same time, Nobu-san who was heading to the west gate muttered that.

Chapter 13: Matda the Superman and Kyle

Several guards were standing by at the west gate when I got there. Looks like Kyle isn't here.

"S'cuse me, I'd like to refund the temp registration card now that I have registered as an adventurer."

When I gave them a call... Huh? A nice middle-aged man who seems to be the top person here is coming.

The white hair mixed in his natural hair looks good, but his most distinct trait is the bulking muscles. That upper arm is as big as my body. The other guards are carrying swords and spears, only this person is bare handed. No wait, that knuckle-like things on his waist seem to be brass knuckles.

"Fumu, refunding for the temp registration huh, that means you're a newbie?"

"Yes, I just got to this town today and completed the registration just now."

"Fumu, wait a bit. Oy, Kyle! Stop lazing around and help with this."

Mr. Muscle Middle (Temp) ordered Kyle who was inside the guard station in a loud voice. Kyle ran out while panicking a little.

"Please give me a break captain-commander. I just went in for a break didn't I."

"Fool, stop grumbling at work! You've got to reflect a little for creating a long ass line while you were chasing the adventurer ladies' asses."

"Guooh, even Captain-Commander knew it.... Tohoho, I'll do it, I wiiill."

Mr. Muscle Middle is the captain-commander huh. Judging from his intimidating air, he must be the captain-commander of the soldiers in this town. He seems exactly like your seasoned war hero.

"Oh, the chick who was together with the 『Tail of Wind』 huh. Looks like you're done registering."

"Thanks to you. Also, I have a name, Nobusada, please stop calling me chick."

"Haahaahaa, well I didn't hear your name. Nobusada eh, that sounds like a name from Hinoto Kingdom."

This guy, he's doing the document while looking at me. Quite skillful he is.

"Oh yea, you're calling them 『Tail of Wind』, what's that?"

"Wha? You were with them and you didn't know that?"

"Yes."

"『Tail of Wind』 is the party name of those two. They're D-rank adventures with promising future at such young ages. Though they're more famous for their careful completion of quests than for their combat ability. Those sisters have the look so they even have a fanclub I hear."

They are beautiful but to even have a fanclub.... As expected of Futsuno-san and Mitama. They're awesome.

"Alright now, procedure complete. These are your silver coins."

I received silver coins from Kyle. Right on money.

"More importantly, what's your relationship with those two?"

"Eh? A lifesaver that helped them from goblins?"

"I see, so those two saved you when you got attacked huh."

"No, it's the opposite you know."

"Opposite?"

"I was the one doing the saving. I helped them when they were outnumbered as Mitama was hurt."

"You did!? You're kidding me, must be a lie, you don't look that strong y'know."

Mugugu, he doesn't believe it at all. I-it's not like I'm mortified by it!

"Then you just see it yourself in a match. Right Kyle?"

"Geeh, commander!"

Geh, Guan Yu.

Since when were you here, Captain-commander Muscle Middle (temp).

"What's with that 'geeh' huuh. From what I see, this lad isn't that bad himself. He'd beat you easily if you let your guard down."

"You serious!? Mugugu, but there's nothing for me..."

"Then I'll give you the right to make an advance on my daughter once."

"To Eleanor-san!? I'll do it, let me do it!"

Wait, the captain-commander is Eleanor-san's father!? The father of War Princess must be terribly strong....

I look at him timidly. I mean, you can't just give someone the right to make an

advance on your daughter that easily you know.

Name: Matda - Gender: Male - Race: General Human

Class: Magic Boxer Lv75

Title: 【War Fist】

【Skill】

Fist Art Lv7 - Physical Strength Lv7 - Sturdiness Lv6 - Touki Lv6 - Evasion Lv4 - Danger Sense Lv4 - Command Lv5

Uooo, why is he this strong. An order of magnitude difference, literally.

But really, War Fist and War Princess! Is this a parent and daughter thing. Kyle, are you really going to make a pass on the daughter of this father? Un, I just got to know him recently, but I can see him doing that.

Eh? Me? It's impossible for me right now. It can't be a quarrel if I can't stand getting hit once by his fist.

"Are you fine with swords?"

"Un, I'm good."

"Then, use any wooden swords here."

Several wooden swords are leaned against the wall. Uoo, there's many with blood on them. Just how hard is the guards' training.

I found a lone bokuto while looking at them haphazardly. How nostalgic! Alright, I'm using this one.

Bokuto 『Merciful Blood Slasher』

Quailty: Good - Enclosed Magic: 1/1

A souvenir sold in a certain hot spring resort at Hinoto Kingdom. Magic power came to dwell it after its long history of beating up ruffians.

I appraised it just because.... But what the heck is this. Uwaah, I can see darkened parts here and there when I look closer.

"Huu, you're using my wooden sword huh. You've got good eyes."

So it's yours huh, is that right. Just how many did you beat with it!

"Okay, let's do it. I'm not gonna hold back. After all, having the authorization from the captain-commander to hit on her is like a miracle."

"Muu, feels like you're treating me like a stepping stone, but I'm not going to lose okay."

"Looks like you two are motivated enough."

Kyle and I face each other.

His flippant attitudes he had been showing quieted down. We readied ourselves and looked at each other. I'd feel aggravated somehow if I lose and he makes a pass on Eleanor-san, it's firing me up. Activate Magic Clad, maximum output it is.

"Hou"

Nuu, the captain-commander noticed the Magic Clad. But it's not like he's warned against it, so he probably doesn't mind me using it.

Huh? Since when did we get surrounded by the peanut gallery!?

Guards! What about your job! Wait, the people lining up are paying attention over here too. You the ma'am over there, this isn't a show you know.

"Then...."

The surrounding noise quieted down with the captain-commander's voice.

"Begin!"

"HAAAAAAAAA"

Kyle rushed in at once with the signal.

However, I had already read that. He looked so obviously wanted to plunge ahead.

I blocked him with the bokuto at the right timing.

"Noottottotto"

I gave Kyle a Yakuza kick when he lost his balance.

"Wha! Waaaaait."

Kuh, he evaded. But it's still my turn!

"CHESTOOOOOOO"

I plunge with all my might and swing down.

I made my attack while he was trying to fix his balance and posture.

This ends it!? Right when I thought that, I got a severe counter attack.

"Counter Slash!"

Kyle's slashed at me horizontally. Its power was not perfect since he hadn't rebuilt his posture, but the counter hit me. So that was a Weapon Skill.

Ouch ow ow ow, I'd have fainted if it wasn't for the Magic Clad, dammit.

"How do you like that, you should surrender now."

"But I refuse!"

I fix my breathing while enduring the pain. Then I noticed something when I was covering Magic Clad on my whole body for the second time.

My magic power flowed onto the bokuto too?

I don't know if it's effective or not, but since it's not useless, I'm going to put all the magic power it can take.

"What's wrong? If you're not coming, I'm gonna do it instead y'know?"

I ignore the cheap provocation. I stare at Kyle and take an upper stance.

The aim will be for an instant, don't mistake the timing, me.

"Sheesh, I'm gonna finish this quick and go to Eleanor-san's place ya know. Go to sleep with this! Another Slash!!"

He's also swinging from above huh! No, wrong! It changed to upward slash!? How does that even work!?

But this is convenient. I swung down the Magic Clad bokuto at once. The aim is Kyle's wooden sword.

CLAAANK

"Wha"

Kyle looked dumbfounded for an instant. His wooden sword that hit my bokuto crushed to pieces.

Not letting that chance go, I jump in the air.

"DIE HAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA"

I ram a drop kick on Kyle hard!

"BUBERAAAAAAAAAAAA"

Kyle fell down while raising a strange voice. Ah, he's twitching.

The defensive power from the full throttle Magic Clad became quite the

offensive power huh. Fuhahaha, evil has been destroyed!

THUMP!

A fist hit down on my head as I smirked instinctively.

I crouch down due to the excessive pain.

"You overdid it fool!"

It looked to be captain-commander Matda's fist. T'was hurt.

"Kyle too, you were too careless. Your attacks were to random. I'm gonna personally train you intensively after today's work."

"Gwooo, so this is what they say when it rains, it pours."

Captain-Commander, that one just now was the decisive blow no matter how you look at it.

"Lad, you're rough but worth polishing. However, you'd have been done in by Kyle's counter in an actual fight. A moment of negligence beckons death, do not

forget that."

"Yes, thank you very much! Captain-Commander!"

I saluted reflexively.

Captain-Commander Matda went back to the guard station in a good mood for some reason. The peanut gallery also broke off after being satisfied with the show, only Kyle and me were left. Since he looked quite depressed, I felt a bit bad for him.

"...Er, how do I say this...don't mind."

"Gufuu, don't you cheer up the loser."

Well, it's not like I don't understand.

"Well fine, Nobusada was it. This time, I'm handing over the right to hit on Eleanor-san to youuu."

Ah, he resurrected. He sure recovers fast.

"No, it's not like I wanted to do that...."

"What! She's that much of a beauty. You're not a man if you don't hit on her."

"No no no, please don't decide that with your standard. I just became an adventurer today y'know? Until I can earn enough to lead a stable life, I plan for love affair will be secondary."

Un, I do yearn for mofumofu-san, but I gotta stabilize my life first. Since I'm not a Tokyoite, not having a saving is not my principle.

"You, you're quite calculated for your age...."

Oh quit it, this is the time to remain obscure.

"I lost this time, but I'm gonna win the next match. So don't die inside the dungeon or something you hear me."

"I'm not gonna die that easily. I'll take you up on that rematch. But just you know I never have any intention to lose!"

We face each other with triumphant looks. I dunno who started it, but the two of us burst into laughter.

After bumping our fists, we started to walk back to our own separate ways.

Kyle huh. Quite an interesting guy.

Now then, it took more time than expected, I got to secure a place to sleep tonight.

I ran back to the guild.

Chapter 14: Good Food Really is the Best

Evening of the day. I ran to the guild.

Come to think of it I didn't ask the guild's open hour. I was panicking in the middle of the way, thinking what I would do if it was closed.

I head to Eleanor-san's counter in a hurry. Adventurers inside the guild at this time of the day were sparse, so it didn't take long until it was my turn.

"I'm back Eleanor-san, I'd like to complete the procedure please."

"Yes, Nobusada-san. Please wait a minute."

Even though I knew that it's just a business talk, being told to wait by a beauty would still skip your heart wouldn't it?

"There's an inn behind this building called 『Solomon Pavilion』 of which the guild is cooperating with. You could apply for the beginner fee if you show this note to the receptionist."

"Thank you very much. And excuse me, could I ask you something?"

"Yes, please ask me anything."

"Truth to be told, I haven't been baptized yet, what should I do to take one?"

"Baptism is it? Excuse me for asking, what would be the circumstances that make it happens?"

Just like what I told Futsuno-san, I told her that, 『I got abandoned as a baby in the western forest, an old man who was living in the forest picked up and raised me. My grandfather passed away recently so I thought of going to the town. Since I've been living in the forest all my life, I haven't taken the baptism and my general knowledge is a bit unreliable』.

"Was the the case, you've had it hard don't you...."

No, um, it's just a setting I randomly thought up, I'm truly sorry.

"Were you informed of the baptism?"

"Yes, I heard about it from someone I got acquainted with on the way to this town."

"Is that right, but you'd have to take it at another day since it's already late today. If you have time I could prepare your baptism ready for tomorrow, what would you like to do?"

"Yes, I'm fine tomorrow."

"Then would you tell me the god of whom you'd like to be baptized under?"

"『Goddess Levelitt-sama of Growth and Talent』 please."

I chose it without hesitation. Eleanor-san made an "Eh!?" face for an instant, but she calmed down immediately.

"Levelitt-sama is it. Many adventurers went with 『God of War and Battle Aren』-sama, are you sure about that?"

Goddess Leve, why are you this lowly regarded? Did you do something bad?

"Yes, it's Levelitt-sama please."

"I understand. Then I'll prepare the procedure for the baptism. Please come again by the daytime tomorrow."

"Thank you very much Eleanor-san. Then I'll be resting at the inn for today. Thank you in advance for tomorrow."

"Yes, have a good dream."

I went out the guild and immediately headed to the 『Solomon Pavilion』 behind it.

After walking for a few minutes, I saw a big building with a big sign written with, 『Solomon Pavilion』. Even an inexperienced adventurer wouldn't get lost with that. Yes, that's me!

When I went inside a door that looked like it had quite a history, I was immediately greeted by a dining room. Looks like the lodging rooms are above. I immediately search for the receptionist desk and then a girl who seems to be around 10 greets me.

"Welcome~ to 『Solomon Pavilion』~"

Un, it's a small girl with bob cut that could be called a beauty.

Name: Minerva - Gender: Female - Race: General Human

Class: Merchant Lv5

Title: 【Poster Girl】

【Skill】

Arithmetic Lv2 - Reception Lv3 - Housework Lv3 - Life Magic

Poster Girl is a title!? Considering her age, she's quite a capable girl.

"I've got an introduction from the guild, is there any room left? I've just been registered as an adventurer today."

"Ye~s, if you please show the note given by the guild."

"Ah, here it is."

I handed over the note that Eleanor-san gave me to the girl.

"Yes, I got it. F rank Nobusada-san right~ How long do you plan to stay in~?"

"For now one week please."

"One week it is~. Ah, in case your rank rises, you'll still be charged with the beginner fee for that one week, but it'll be regular fee after that, please take note~"

Regular fee seems to be 600 mani with included breakfast a day, but it's half of that at 300 mani for F rank beginners. How very fair.

"Nobusada-san's room is room 210 at the corner of the second floor. For dinner, the recommended special of the day will be provided for free. Other menu besides that including liquor will incur extra charge, please take note~"

I see, they can make the recommended menu cheaper by making a lot of it huh. They properly charge the side menu and the liquor..... I guess this is the kind of world where the entertainment is limited to women and alcohol.

"Just call me Nobu. Looks like I'll trouble you for a long time after all."

"Yes, Nobu-san, and you can call me Minerva too~"

"No no. I'd feel bad if I had to do without honorifics when we just met, it's Minerva-chan okay."

"Ye~s, then Nobu-san, what would you like to do for dinner tonight?"

"I'd love to eat right after I put my baggage in the room. Also, is there a bath here?"

"There's no bath in this place~ Only royalty and nobles that mostly have it~ We can prepare a bucket of hot water for free, I'll bring it to your room later~"

"Then would you please do after dinner."

"Ye~s, then I'll go get it ready for you~"

I paid the fee for one week, got the key from Minerva-chan and went to the second floor. When I went inside the room, yup, it's that. The interior design is like a student dormitory's. If that's hard to understand, then let's say it's like a cramped studio flat? But well, I don't hate such closed space like this. Though

small, it feels like my castle.

"Phew, I can finally settle down."

I put down my baggage (just the rucksack) and sighed. I'm finally here.

The past several days were like surging waves. The real show only starts now though.

For the time being, tomorrow I need to procure the wild boar money and get baptized, full of things I gotta do. I should check if there's any quest I can take too. Personally speaking, I'd like a quest about alchemy or blacksmithing.

Awright, let's have dinner. Wonder what kind of menu will it be.

I went to the dining room on the first floor, lots of people were in there. Most of the guests look young, like they're inexperienced adventurers. I wonder if there would be an encounter that culminates in me creating a party with the other person here.... But well I'm going solo for a while. I have few acquaintances anyhow.

I look around for a vacant seat restlessly while thinking such things.

Oh, there's one on the counter. Let's go with that, I can see the cooking in this world too from there.

"Ah, Nobu-san, you're here for dinner right~"

Minerva-chan unexpectedly showed up on the counter.

"Yup, one special set of the day please. I think I'd go for a fruit juice as well."

"Ye~s, one set of today special, plea~se."

"Ou."

I heard a deep voice from the back. The chef seemed to be quite a big man though I could only see his back. His body is big but he cooked with impressive nimbleness. Amazing, this works as a reference. There's no waste movement.

Name: Donul Zavinia - Gender: Male - Race: General Human

Class: Chef Lv48

Title: None

【Skill】

Martial Art Lv4 - Joint Lock Lv5 - Physical Strength Lv4 - Cooking Lv7 - Life Magic.

The heck, are the old men in this world the strongest or something. Weird, why are they all this fit. His cooking level is amazing too. How would the royal court chefs be like I wonder....

That reminds me, this is the first time I saw someone with a family name in this world. Since Minerva-chan doesn't have one, looks like there's some kind of deep circumstances surrounding it, like maybe a fallen noble.

"Thank you for waiting, here's one set of today special~ Today's special set is chicken saute, salad, bread and potato soup~ And here's your peach fruit juice~"

"Oh, they look good."

Uwaah, I can't get enough of this. The chicken saute's seasoning is especially nice. The garlic and some kind of spice stimulate the appetite. The salad dressing is a new taste for me, but it's quite refreshing and the optimum palate cleansing for the saute. Lastly I drank the fruit drink, it wasn't cold but the peach juice was refreshing and easy to swallow.

I got too absorbed and finished them all in no time. Oh no, I wanted to savor

the taste a bit more.

"Muhaa, I'm completely satiated."

"Oh my, Nobu-san finished already. You're really quick~"

"It was amazingly good. The saute was especially superb."

"Really~. Dad would be happy to hear that."

"Eh, that chef in the back was your father?"

"Yes, this inn is run by our family after all~ Dad is in the kitchen, I deal with the customers and cleaning, and mom deals with the accounting~"

"I didn't know."

It hit me then.

"Could you take this to your father to be used later?"

That's right, it's the leftover wrapped meat of the wild boar. I'm curious

to what kind of dish would the old man make with this. I'm also handing over the assorted fruits I picked in the forest. These are for the payment for the request.

"T-this is boar meat isn't it~ There's so many fruits too. Are you sure?"

"Yup, I'm interested in the dish the old man would make with this. The fruits are a kind of payment for this request of mine."

"I understand, I'll give them to him. I think we can ready it at tomorrow's dinner~"

"Yeah, looking forward to it. Then I'm returning to my room, I'll be waiting for the hot water later."

"Ye~s, thank you very much~"

I handed over 20 mani for the fruit juice and went back to my room.

I lie down in the bed in the room. Phew, fluffy bed and good food, this inn is a hit. No wonder the guild recommended it. It's cordial towards newbies.

Afterward, I cleaned my body with the hot water Minerva-chan brought.

Feels like I'd have a good dream tonight, good...ni...ght....

Chapter 15: Advent! The No-Goddess Next Door

Here~ comes~ the detestable~ morning~ the morning of....hooooooooope♪

Hello, it's Nobusada who still isn't used to the youthfulness of this body and its morning tent.

This body's too much of a wild kid.

Anyway, let's do my best today.

"Oh, Minerva-chan, morning!"

"Ah, Nobu-san. Good morning."

You're brimming with vigor again today, girl. It makes me feel energetic too.

"We can prepare the breakfast right away, would you like one~"

"Yeah, I'd love to."

The same seat yesterday was vacant so I took it immediately. I'm looking forward to the breakfast.

"Thank you for waiting, here you go~"

The menu she brought out looked like eggs Benedict, salad and herb tea. It's way different than the black bread and soup I've been having until yesterday.

The fatty meat and the egg yolk in the slit are dripping onto the muffin. Rich taste of the yolk and the sauce overflowed in my mouth as I bit into it. Way too good. What's this, the inside of my mouth is already a fantasy.

It's been an enjoyable morning. Ah, bliss. Good breakfast is a man's happiness.

"Today was a feast too. Tell your father my thanks."

"Yes, I got it~. Oh and also, dad was really pleased with the meat yesterday you know. He's going to give it his all, please look forward to the dinner tonight~"

"That sounds awesome. Then I'll be heading out."

"Have a good day~"

I head to the guild while feeling quite pleasant. I'd like to do some quest if I can take the baptism today.

"Good morning, Eleanor-san."

"Yes, good morning. Nobusada-san. Let's start right away, here is the payment for the wild boar and everything else from yesterday."

I got 25,000 mani in total. I'm grateful to Futsuno-san and Mitama. I should go see them along with some gift once I've settled down.

"And for the matter about baptism, I've prepared a map for you. The places marked on this map are the guild and the temple. The priest-sama of the temple should be staying permanently there, please hand over this letter of introduction to the priest."

I accepted the map and the letter of introduction that were probably written by Eleanor-san herself. I'm thankful that she's prepared me many things. I should bring her a present next time.

"Thank you very much. I feel bad for having imposed you on everything."

"Please don't think about it, it's my duty as a guild staff member to support adventurers."

"Then I'll be going to the temple."

Phew, it's the baptism at last huh. It seems to be an unpopular god, but I'm sure that it should be effective for my leveling style. But well, even if it didn't meet my expectation, I'd be fine as long as I learned the life magic.

While thinking that, I relied on the map and arrived at a solemn temple...tem...ple...?

Huh? The building looks unbelievably like a hut though.... Did I make a wrong turn somewhere?

The Aren and Ordis temples I saw on the way here were of fantasy standard y'know?

Even if it's unpopular, this much difference is strange.

I knock on the hut's door timidly.

"Excuse me, is the priest here?"

"Y-yesss, I thought we already paid the interest this moooonth."

I heard a feeble voice that sounded very unreliable. Or rather, interest!? Is the temple covered in debt or something!?

"Err, I'm Nobusada who came here for baptism as referred by the guild."

"Aaah, I'm sorryyy. Someone did contact meee. It's been awhile since my last baptism, but I'll be sure to do it properlyyy."

The one that appeared before me was a small female priest? But, it's been awhile since her last baptism huh...

Name: Bell - Gender: Male - Race: Half Elf

Class: Priest Lv13

Title: Believer of Levelitt

【Skill】

Life Magic - Holy Magic Lv4 - Water Magic Lv2 - Singing Lv3 - Animal Knowledge Lv3 - Housework Lv2 - God Blend

A man!? And a half elf!? People who like shota probably won't be able to resist him.

BL? No no, I'm normal! But what is this 'God Blend' I wonder?

"You're Nobusada-san right. Umm, I'm the priest who is in charge of this temple, my name is Bell. I will confirm once again, you can't undo it once you've baptized once, are you really sure about it?"

Bell, why'd you need to make doubly sure that far?

"It's fine, but why are you being so timid about this?"

Bell begins to talk timidly.

"There have been only three adventurers in total who received baptisms ever since I got assigned here three years ago. Even if you complain later, it's not

possible to cancel the baptism once it's done you know. The one before you was the daughter of the former duke-sama, but she decided on it on her own. I was severely reprimanded by the people in duke-sama circle for not explaining enough...."

Uwaaaah, that's.... Guess it's a miracle enough that the temple remains. The biggest problem is that he did the baptism, which can't be changed once done, to an arbitrary whim of the duke's daughter. When you're a duke, you'd probably associate with each temple, and temples must have power struggles among them too.

"I choose Levelitt-sama since I think she fits the best for my objectives. Thus, please proceed with the baptism."

"I understand. Then first, we would like to ask 2000 mani as a donation."

I took out two silver coins from the rucksack and gave it to Bell.

"Thank you. With this I can repair the leaking roof.... no no, it's nothing."

Hey hey. Your inner voice is leaking out big time. I'll give him the remaining fruits I have when I'm leaving. He looks like an abandoned puppy somehow.

"Then please stand before the idol. And kneel with one knee and close your eyes please."

I look like I'm praying after doing what he told. Looking again, I couldn't sense any shred of dignity from the Levelitt's idol for some reason. A relatively attractive girl with a slightly comical feeling to her. She looks like that. Is it really fine for the idol to be like that?

"One among the six pillar gods, goddess of growth and talent, Levelitt-sama. Give your blessing and protection to this the new believer."

New believer, Nobusada. Do you swear not to indulge in your talent and continue to grow righteously?"

Oh, he looks like a priest for once, I can even see something that looks like a halo. I don't understand what the heck 'grow righteously' even means, but I'll tread the road I believe in.

"I swear."

"Do you swear to not entrust the power you obtain from growing to evil and wield them righteously?"

"I swear."

Isn't he shining brighter now!? Is this the state called trance?

"『....Would you swear to be eternally loyal and donating toward the righteous, noble and beautiful Levelitt-sama?』"

"Wait a minute, oy!"

"『A a, test. She sells seashell aiueOH! Hello, it's the star of hope for 23,000 people in the countrywide, Levelitt-sama here.』』"

"Eeeh"

"『You over there, don't make that disappointed face!』"

"Ventriloquism? Some kind of illusion?"

"『The one borrowing this child's body and talking is Levelitt without a doubt you know. I mean, I don't have much time to do this God Blend, so I'd appreciate it if you can make it short! This child's mind would be deleted if it passed three minutes time you see.』"

"From which Nebula you came from anyway. Why'd you do such a dangerous thing."

"『Well y'see, you looked like you'd become an extra-large singularity when I was watching from above, I thought it was amusing, tehee.』"

So she really did mark me!?

"Amusing hey.... I mean that singularity thing sounds ominous!?"

Who'd have thought that Goddess Levelitt's personality would be like this! I'm quickly regretting hurrying the baptism at this rate. I was in daze since things progressed too quickly.

"『So then, Nobusada-kun, won't you become my apostle?』"

"But I refuse!"

"『Instant reply!? Can't you think about it a bit more? This onee-san is sad.』"

"I'd appreciate if a goddess who's been around since the beginning of the world not calls herself onee-san thank you!"

"『So cruel, Levelitt-sama is eternally 20 you know.』"

"I'm not fit to be this apostle or such."

"『So you're just going to ignore my age are you. You'd get many privileges when you become my apostle. I'm good at improving growth you know. You should just nod while thinking you're being tricked 'k.』"

Goddess Levelitt coaxes me through Bell body. However, my mind won't waver cause I know the body is of a man!

"So I'm still being tricked in the end? I've nothing to lose not getting growth improvement."

"『You're terribly frank. Muu, I don't have much time left, this is it for today. I won't give up okay. The creator god told me that it'd be the end of the match if I did.』"

"Creator god, what are you teaching her...."

"『For now, think about the apostle matter more cause you'll get many privileges okay. Don't forget about occasional offering to the temple. Levelitt-sama likes her sweets you know. Dorayaki particularly, that one's her favorite.』"

"Yea yea, Doza*mon."

"『You got the part that needs retorting all wroong. And that's the parody drowning one~. Well, see you again adios!』"

Levelitt-sama left after talking like a storm. Un, any respect I have is already disappearing like dust in the wind. She does seem interesting though.

"Ha! I felt like something descended just now... My head is.... Feels like it's unbearably...."

"A-are you alright?"

"....Itchy."

"Whaddya mean by itchy!"

I reflexively retorted. I was worried for nothing!

"Please continue with the baptism."

"Yes, I'm sorry. ...Strongly wish to God once again. Give your blessing and protection to this new believer."

Particles of light float and converge around me. It shined once and got sucked into my body.

Bell looked dumbfounded somehow looking at it. Huh? Was this not a baptism?

I appraise myself to see if there's any change.

Name: Nobusada Izumi - Gender: Male - Race: General Human?

Class: Fighter Lv7 - Condition: Healthy

Titlte: 【Moss Ball Killer】

HP: 70/70 MP: 82/82

【Skill】

Etania Native Language - Differing Soul Communication Lv1 - Magic Development Lv1 - Houseworks Lv5 - Agriculture Lv3 - Swordsmanship Lv2 - Throwing Lv1 - Evasion Lv1 - Holy Magic Lv 1 - Elemental Magic Aptitude Lv2 - Life Magic (new!) - Disguise Lv2 - Magic Clad Lv2

【Inherent Skill】

Discerning Magic Eyes Lv3 (up!) - Levelitt's Blessing (small) (new!)

Levelitt's Blessing (small): Improvement to class experience point acquisition, skill acquisition, and skill level increment.

Additional Title

【Levelitt Apostle (Temporary License)】

Proof of someone who has become a messenger of Goddess Levelitt. However it's a temporary license. The power balance among gods change depending the actions of people who have become apostles. However, this has little influence since it's just a temporary license. Effective just by possessing it.

That no-goddess.... I'm thankful for the Blessing, but the (Temporary License) is most baffling. Just how far did that no-goddess marked me down.

Power balance exists even among gods huh. How fresh.

"....Many things happened, but the baptism is now over."

"Was baptism always like this?"

"....No, this was a first for me too. Nobusada might be especially favored by Levelitt-sama."

You got it right, and I got some weird thing added to me without my permission you know. Not gonna tell anyone though.

Afterward, Bell taught me about the life magic and I left the temple(?).

The life magic are

Washing magic - Clear

Ignition magic - Pom

Drying magic - Dry

Springwater magic - Water

Etc, it seems to consume little mana and plenty of people could use it. These magic are plain but extremely convenient.

I shove the matter about Goddess Leve to the corner most region of my brain and head to the guild. I should still be able to make it to accept some quest at this hour. I feel like doing some quests devotedly right now.

Chapter 16: Red Old Man and Green Old Man♪

Alright! Eleanor-san! I'll go see Eleanor-san to get healed!

And accept a quest! Forget about unpleasant things!

"Eleanor-saan. I'm finished with the baptism."

Eleanor-san is bewildered.

"No-Nobusada-san, did something happen during the baptism? You seem quite lively...."

"Let's forget about the baptism. Yes let's. I'd like to accept a quest, where do I need to confirm it?"

Eleanor-san looked puzzled to see me changing the topic forcefully, but then she sensed the mood and explains like usual. Hm, looks like she guessed it somehow.

Eleanor-san really is a beauty. Looking at her again, her beauty is prominent. Un, my heart is getting healed.

She's put her hair into a ponytail, her nape looks sexy. Add that with the tender smile under the glasses, and it's not hard to get crazy about her like Kyle.

Her body is also quite.... The breast part is a bit disappointing.... I felt a slight bloodlust, I gotta stop thinking deeper about this.

Alright, my broken glass heart has been glued back by Eleanor-san. Now's the time to work.

"Regarding quests, a quest will commence once you submit the Quest Paper pasted on the board over there along with rank to us. If the quest pertains goods delivery, please deliver it to us, but if it's a type that requires you to directly report to the client, the quest will be complete when you bring the Completion Tag you get to us."

"Fumufumu."

"You can only accept quests that are one rank higher. In case you accept a quest higher than one rank from your rank, you will need the approval of the guild."

"Fumumumu"

"And please be careful about quest cancellation and failure. In that case, you will need to pay the cancellation fee that has been set beforehand. Make sure to check such details in the Quest Papers. The guild will help to check for it, but there are rare cases where such situations lead to troubles."

"I see, I got it loud and clear. I'm going to see the quests then."

I stand before the board with Eleanor-san's advices in my mind. Huh? Not a lot of people here. Hmm, is it because of the time. It's already afternoon after all.

Well there might be some leftover fortunes, let's see what we got here.

And thus, this is the only remaining quest.

《 Ore Transportation 》

Requesting to transport ore from Blacksmith Guild to a blacksmith store at the edge of the town.

Please try to transport the ore as carefully and fast as possible.

Reward: 300 Mani

Client: Blacksmith Guild

Destination: Blacksmith 『Hammer of Flame』

"Eleanor-san, I'd like to accept this quest."

"Yes, thank you. The Blacksmith Guild is located at center of the southern industrial ward. It's the biggest building in the industrial ward, you should know it when you see it."

"I got it. I'll be going then."

I don't need a map since there's plenty of signboards and town's guide maps in this town. They look relatively new, I gotta thank the person who had the idea.

I'm not getting lost, but I'm still on foot. I took quite a bit of time due to the town size. The bell informing 3 o'clock rang when I arrived at the Blacksmith Guild.

"Excuse me, I've accepted your quest at the adventurer guild, where should I get the details?"

The receptionist girl... girl? someone whom I deemed to be a kid is working as a receptionist here?

"Yes yes, let me check the Quest Paper first. Ah, this one huh. It's quite heavy, will you be alright? I asked the guild to get a robust skillful man for this though."

"Eh, was the quest for specific person...."

"It's heavy and all but more importantly it needs a bit of knack to transport. The ore becomes tough when it's made into alloy, but it's quite fragile at its base form. Yet it's relatively heavy, quite troublesome huh. We usually have contracted deliverymen to handle it, but everyone's out at this season so we put a request at the Adventurer Guild."

"How much is total weight?"

"Think it's about 30KG?"

"Then it can enter this rucksack, there's no problem with the transportation."

"Howe, s'that a magic rucksack? You've got some convenient thing there."

"Once I get this delivered, could I ask for the quest completion from er, receptionist-san?"

"...Ah, I didn't tell you did I. I'm this guild's guildmaster, Pitia."

...The Blacksmith Guild's guildmaster was a legal loli. Why're ya at the receptionist desk!

"I'm Nobusada, I'm a fledgling adventurer. Please treat me well, guildmaster."

"Oh quit it with the formal talk. Just call me Pitia. I'm going to prepare the ore now, wait a bit okay."

After saying that, she ordered the people in the surroundings. She's sure a lady with good ethos, she's a loli though. Her brown skin exudes healthy charm, she's a loli though. I peek at her even while feeling sorry about it.

Name: Pitia Pritis - Gender: Female - Age: 28 - Race: Dwarf Kin

Class: Blacksmith Lv 32

Title: 【Blacksmith Guild's Idol】

【Skill】

Hammer Art: Lv5 - Blacksmith: Lv5 - Engraving Lv4 - Charisma - Life Magic

As one would expect of a dwarf. She doesn't look 28 at all. 【Blacksmith Guild's Idol】? In her 28? ididntseeanything.

"Alright, here you go. Your destination is the 『Hammer of Flame』. The store is farther than the Adventurer Guild so just ask the storekeeper there for the quest completion proof. You can take it straight to Adventurer Guild then."

"Okay, I've got the ore with me. Then I'll be off."

"Hoi, hoi, get it together kay."

Now then, it's Nobusada's first quest.

A bit late for this, but y'know, this town is vast. It's divided into four wards in four directions, each ward has its own characteristic. The western ward has the Gramada branch of the Adventurer Guild and prosperous pleasure quarters adjoining it. The southern ward is a commercial ward with the Blacksmith Guild, the Trade Guild and such others in it, the eastern ward has a lot of temples and

agriculture related stuff like Agricultural Guild, the northern ward is home to the administration headquarter, and noble houses of the senior officials of the lord here. By the way, you'll see a vast cultivation field if you pass through the eastern gate. And the center houses the greatest characteristic of this town, the entrance to a dungeon.

I saw my destination while I was lost in thought. It's probably the building with a red roof over there. And right when I approached it while thinking how the blacksmith in this world would look like.

BAAAAAAM roll roll roll roll

A green object got blown off in front of me.

"W-what's happening!?"

"Gilui! Say that agaiiin."

An old man with a fine beard in red overalls suddenly came out of the blacksmith(?). Which means, the green object just now was!? I turned around and saw a thin old man in green overalls falling on his backsides.

"I'll keep saying it till you're satisfied. I'm retiring as a blacksmith. I'm tired of swinging hammer every single day!"

"You're going to abandon the family business that's been going on for generations just because of that!?"

"Anija (older brother) has it good. You're blessed with a healthy body from our parents. But me.... I can't do it anymore. You understand right, Anija."

"Gilui...."

"You can throw away all of my belongings in the store. I'm going to leave the house. I've got all my luggage already."

"What are.... you going to do from now on?"

"I'll work as a bartender in a bar using my connection. Please come have some drink once you've calmed down, Anija. It's not like I'm retiring because I don't like Anija."

"Is that so.... If you've thought this through that far, I won't say anything anymore. Be in good health."

"You too Anija...."

A scene of carnage is happening right before my eyes. I hardened like a rock on the roadside though. Why did a family drama unfold when I just came here for a delivery. Ah, the beard old man went back into the store.

Eh? Where did the green old man disappear to??

I'm feeling quite gloomy after getting left alone.

By the sense of duty that compels me to finish the quest, I open the blacksmith's door.

"I'm here to deliver the ore as requested by the Blacksmith Guild. Is the storekeeper here?"

The bearded old man who isn't hiding his bad mood. This person must be the storekeeper.

Name: Maurio - Gender: Male - Age: 32 - Race: Dwarf

Class: Blacksmith Lv 44

Title: None

【Skill】

Two-handed Axe Lv5 - Hammer Art Lv6 - Blacksmith Lv6 - Woodwork Lv6 -
Sturdiness Lv6 - Stoutness Lv5 - Life Magic

He's strong! The ratio of strong old men in this town is weird.

"Ou, I'm Maurio the storekeeper here. Sorry bout that, letting you see that terrible scene."

"Please don't mind it. These are the ore from Pitia-san."

"Let me check.They're Nitromyte ore for sure. Is that a magic rucksack. That thing's nice for carrying stuff."

So it was called Nitromyte. It sure sounds dangerous. Thank you magic rucksack. Thank you Gune. This stuff is nice.

"Umu, no problem with the condition and the amount too. Let me see the Quest Paper, I'll stamp it."

I got the quest paper stamped. It finished easier than I thought. What should I do, it's a bit awkward now, I'm wondering if I can ask about the matter I talked about back then.

"Maurio-san."

"What's wrong, lad?"

"You see, I've just registered as an adventurer yesterday, and I've been caring for my weapons with my own self-taught way. I was thinking that, if possible, I'd like to learn the proper way to do it.... I'm sorry for the impudent request, but would you teach me about it?"

"Fumu, it really is an impudent request."

And then Maurio-san squints his eyes and looks at me.

"Your attitude of wanting to learn how to properly care your weapons leaves a good impression on me. Lots of young 'uns these days half-assing their trophy maintenance, even though they entrust their life on it."

He laughed after saying that. Oh, I thought he'd be hard to please, but he's surprisingly caring.

"Then...."

"Very well, I don't feel like swinging my hammer today 'fter all."

"Thank you very much! Then please call me Nobusada, not lad."

"Lad is fine since you're still half a man. I'll call you with your name once you're an adult."

"Mumumu."

"And so, where's your trophy lad?"

"I have been using this iron sword."

"Fumu, well, your work isn't half bad. With some corrections, you should

reach a practical level soon."

Oh! I think I just got praised. Getting one from a professional makes me happy.

"But you'd get in trouble if you only have this sword. Most adventurers have spare weapons with them."

"I just got out of the countryside myself, I was thinking of getting more from now on. Would you show me some weapons once you've taught me?"

"Yea, pick one that suits your battle style."

Afterward, I was taught various ways to maintain my weapons by Maurio-san.

As expected of a pro. He taught me many minute details.

"I've taught you the general maintenance. Now, for your spare weapons lad. What kinda thing you want?"

"Hmm, right then."

One-handed sword should be fine as the Fighter's main style. But, a spear for mid-range might be a good idea. As for the other Class I have, it's Fist Fighter. From the potential development of other classes, bows might be possible too. Would be nice if there are shuriken or dart shuriken.

My current fund is 32,444 Mani. But I'd like to have a reserve fund for unexpected things. Which means, 2444.

Basing on that and consulting to Maurio-san, below are the candidates from the weapons displayed in the store.

Iron Spear

Quality: Good - Enclosed Mana: 1/5

Price: 5600 Mani

Common iron spear. The quality is better than the common thing due to Maurio's ability.

Knuckle Guard

Quality: Good - Enclosed Mana: 0/3

Price: 3400 Mani.

The parts covering the fist and forearm can be removed. An economical weapon that can be used as a normal gauntlet if done so.

Short Bow

Quality: Average - Enclosed Mana: 0/1

Price: 980 Mani

The best bow for bow beginners. The quality isn't high since Maurio's Woodwork is worse than his Blacksmith. The arrow is 20 Mani and sold in a bundle of 10.

Throwing Knife

Quality: Good - Enclosed Mana: 0/1

Price: 300 Mani

A small knife for throwing. It might be better used against people than monsters.

I bought two bundles of arrows and five

Throwing Knife

.

In total, 11,880 Mani.

"I'm going to explore these spare weapons to see which one is best for me, so I'd like to buy these. And also, do you sell armor here?"

"O-ou, you're quite magnanimous. Armor.... I have Full Plates and such, but it's a bit too big for you lad. Fumu, oh, right, hold on a bit."

After he said that, Maurio-san rummaged something in the back of the store.

"Oh found it. I was prototyping this thing in the past, but eventually left it undone. I'm giving it to you lad. It should be more than good enough for a beginner adventurer."

He took out an iron breastplate-like thing(?).

"Judging from your appearance, your battle style ain't the chattering full armor type, light armor should be fine then. I'm gonna adjust the size and add other parts to it, come again here tomorrow."

"By the way, how much would it be?"

"Since it's a trial product, you don't hafta pay. In exchange, report back the usability to me. We lost one craftsman due to various reasons, so I'm thinking of changing the way we do things here."

It's about the green old man earlier huh.... I'd better not bring up this topic.

"I understand, allow me to take you up on that offer."

"And about the spare weapons. It's a matter of life and death, make sure to practice with them until you can use them well you hear me?"

"Yes, I don't wanna die yet myself. I'll be coming here regularly from now on."

"Gahaha, getting more regular customers is always welcome in my book. Lad, don't easily die out there."

I thanked Maurio-san and left the 『Hammer of Flame』. It was a really meaningful time. I might have spent quite long, it's already getting dark. Gotta hurry and report.

When I went to report, Eleanor-san was not there anymore--(° □ °

I guess it's obvious, it's already dark outside after all. The one in charge at night was an old man. The name? I don't remember.

Oh right, I confirmed that the Adventurer Guild is open 24 hours. That's good.

Now then, that chef should be ready with some good food made of that wild boar tonight! Looking forward to it.

Chapter 17: Encounter with Kagura-san, Boing-Boing Chapter

BuunBuun♪ Harvesting rice~♪

With Combine gan gan gan♪ Let's go, threshing~♪

Swaying paddy field, transcendental farming robot~♪

I'm returning to the inn while singing the original soundtrack of Transcendental Farming Robot Combine X in my head. It's an original work where the main characters fight pest and harmful animals at first but eventually burn down the main villains along with the earth and begin a swidden farming, 『Our fight starts now!』. I've got good memories of habitually retorting the show, 『That's too muuuuch』 in my childhood as the character shot out obviously overkill extra large missiles.

....Was it really good memories?

Minerva-chan ran up to welcome me when I got back to the 『Solomon Inn』. Many adventures are already having their meals and drinks inside the dining room.

"I'm back, Minerva-chan. I was looking forward to the chef's cooking while

completing my job today."

"Welcome back, you must be doing well with the quest~ you're in good mood no? We're having dishes from the boar Nobu-san brought yesterday as promised~. Look forward to what will appear~ ufufu."

"Sounds good. I met some good people in my work today. Got to know a respectable blacksmith too."

"I'm glad for you~. Everyone has a hard time getting nice arms, I'm sure it's nice to meet someone you can trust for it~"

"Yup, thanks. Then I'll be waiting for the meals on the counter while watching the cooking."

"Yes."

Minerva-chan goes back to her works, and I watch the cooking inside the kitchen. Donul-san really stands out the most. He's working in a really well-calculated manner with his big body. There's not even one wasted movement.

Oh, is the dish he's cooking now the boar? I can't see it well, but as if compensating for that, I can smell something good and hear some nice sounds from it. The adventures behind me are making noises, but I'm concentrating to

the sounds of that cooking. Wonder if this is because of gluttony. How much of a glutton are me anyway.

After 20 minutes.

"Thank you for waiting~. Here's dad's special boar course~"

"Oooh, this is amazing!"

Boar steak, boar stew, boar sandwich are lined up. Uooh, where should I begin!

Alright! Boar Steak! I choose you!

Boar meat cut thickly. The knife went deeply even though I didn't put much power into it. I take a bite, sweet meat juice without a hint of smell spreads in my mouth. Yet the chewiness of the meat and the texture still remain!? How'd you even cook it to make this possible! Amazing, I can't even imagine making it.

The stew next. The ingredients are only carrots, onions, potatoes and boar meat. The meat is stewed well with something similar to worcester sauce and

red wine. It has the flavor that warms you to the core.

Lastly, the boar sandwiches. It's a simple assortment with roast ham-like boar meat, cheese, lettuces and sandwiches. But the umami overflows with each bites!

It's-----so-----go-----od!

I wholeheartedly chow it down while suppressing myself from shouting out loud. All those boar full course went into my stomach before I knew it. Pheeew, I'm as pleased as I can be.

"Thank you for the meal, it was fantastic!"

I talked to Donul-san while handing over the tablewares. He didn't reply but he put his hand up lightly.

"Minerva-chan, thank you. Could I ask you for hot water today too?"

"Yes oka~y, I will bring it to your room later~"

I wiped off my body with the prepared hot water and cleaned all of my belongings including clothes with Clear. I ended up using Clear on the whole room since I had some MP remaining.

Now then, the armor from Maurio-san should be done tomorrow. But I can't exactly go early morning, I should wait till afternoon. What am I gonna do until then? I should train with the weapons I bought today. First, spear, and then the grappling weapon. Bow? I'll hold it off. I'm planning to use magic as my long range attacks for a while. I mean, you can run out of arrows!

And so, Nobusada is here, in the adventurer guild this early morning.

Minerva-chan told me that the guild had a training ground when I asked her if she knew any place to brandish spears. Furthermore, you're free to use it if you're registered with the guild. Free, it has a nice ring to it.

And now I'm spending my time watching the adventurers doing their training from the corner of the training ground. No well, I tried to seriously wield the spear at first. But alas, I'm an amateur after all. It only pointlessly tired me out on top of being difficult.

Thus I'm watching people who use a two-handed spear and grappling weapons while desperately memorizing them. It's mostly looking at people's skills with Discerning Magic Eyes though.

Oh, someone else came into this...place...? A remarkably conspicuous woman entered the training ground.

"Oy, that's...."

"Yeah, the Bloody War Maiden right?"

"I'm getting nervous here."

"Me too...."

The majority of people in the training ground went away. Mumumu, just what's happening here. The woman in question is single-mindedly swinging a spear.

Name: Kagura Kagami - Gender: Female - Age:20 - Race: Onifolk (disguised as General Human)

Class: War Oni Lv20 (Disguised as Fighter Lv15)

Title: 【Bloody War Maiden】

【Skill】

Two-Handed Staff Lv4 - Two-Handed Spear Lv4 - Martial Art Lv3 - Physical Strength Lv2 - Concealment Lv2 - Disguise Lv2 - Life Magic

Three Size: B:9? W:?? H:8?

You can't step beyond this point yet! (ㄟ_ㄟ)

Woo! I saw through her disguise. Wonder if it's because my Discerning Magic Eyes' level exceeds her Disguise. The three sizes have been...liberated....a bit...! Hey you pointlessly high-performance eyes, get a wee bit better at it won't you.

No no, not that. Onifolk huh, wonder if her horn is hidden by the Concealment or Disguise? No, I still can't see it even after seeing through her disguise, it might be hidden using other means. Wonder if the race is discriminated among the General Humans? I...love it! Animal girls, monster girls, oni girls, all of you come at me! No no, I got derailed.

Her tied up black hair trails whenever she swings her spear. Her long slitted deep crimson eyes are focused forward like aiming for a prey.

Stab, stab, stab.

Mow, mow mow.

Boing, boing, boing.

I frantically try to memorize her spear movement while keeping my eyes from losing sight. Another lethal weapon in a different sense assaulted my eyes halfway through, I stored it in another folder of my memories. To be frank, her beauty easily captivates. The way she swings her spear is like she's dancing. To the point that I'm ashamed to have an impure thought. No no, I just happened to lower my head when those shook, yes. When you see boing, boing, boin, boin, those shaking thing, it's just, y'know? No way you can resist kyonyuu right? Me? I like both. Small ones make you want to wrap around them and protect them, big ones make you want to be wrapped in them right?

After swinging her spear for a while, she wiped her sweat and left the training ground. I felt like she glanced here for instant, I must be imagining it right?

I stab with my spear while tracing her movement earlier. Swinging the spear while gradually correcting the form. My goal was to be equal to her movement, it got a little fun as my movement gradually sharpened. After swinging the spear for a while, I took a breather while dripping in sweat.

Tettere~♪ Learned Two-handed Spear Lv 1.

Aw yeah! It should be a bit better now. I learned a skill.

This is a good point to stop, I'll try the grappling weapon after taking some rest.

I went back to the bench with some cloth along the wall to wipe off my sweat.

"Are you finished? You looked like you were quite into it didn't you?"

I got startled when someone suddenly called me. The woman from earlier was there when I turned around at the passage.

"Did I surprise you? It was so interesting that I ended up watching you."

<TLN: She refers to herself using 'warawa'. 'You' using 'Onushi'.>

"Interesting?"

"Pardon me if I upset you. I thought you were an amateur at wielding spear at first, but then your form gradually got better, it was interesting to watch."

"Well, I don't particularly mind being watched. I've got to watch your training after all."

"Yes, that. I knew that you were watching me the whole time. However, I couldn't hide my surprise when the way you wield your spear gradually resembled me. How did you do it? It isn't a school that could be so easily learned you know."

"No well, I was just trying to overlap my movements with the way you swing your spear in my memories. It was really refined, so I used it as a reference."

"Fuumu, is this what they call a genius? One normally cannot get to move to that degree by merely using a reference. What are you?"

Sorry, I've got these cheating-like Discerning Magic Eyes with me. I'm not a genius at all.

"I'm Nobusada. I'm a newbie that's just got registered as an adventurer yesterday. I'm nothing great."

"Fufufu, what a frightening rookie. Oh right, I haven't introduced myself. I'm Kagura, a C class adventurer. Apparently I'm also known with an exaggerated

nickname, 【Bloody War Maiden】."

"That's quite a brutal nickname for a woman."

"Ahahaha, it also has a boldness to it. You seem calm even after hearing my nickname."

"Well, like I said earlier, it hasn't been long since I arrived at this town and became an adventurer. I really don't know that info."

"No need to be so modest. My intuition tells me that your attitudes didn't change. Besides, I feel that our fates are linked somehow."

"That's quite an honor. I'll make sure to train myself enough not to hold you back until that time."

"Haha, oh how long has it been since I laughed this much, I will be looking forward to that myself. Then, until next time."

"Yeah, see you."

She left the training ground after saying that.

I couldn't say it, I couldn't tell her that I was staring at another destructive weapon than the spear.... And that I memorized more than the spear because of that....

Not good, I almost got into some weird mood. I use Clear to clear myself and off my worldly desire and Dry to dry myself. Hmm, it does become clean, but having only this suit around isn't a good idea. I should ask Maurio-san where to buy clothes when I get there. I also want to know the market price of magic rucksacks. Since I feel like I'd fill up my rucksack's entire capacity if this keeps up.

Alright! Let's get back to training.

I put on the knuckle guards and hit the wooden training dummy. I repeat the hit-and-run tactic while imagining moss balls and goblins's movements.

I kept training for an hour afterward with breaks in between.

I sadly couldn't get Martial Art skill since there wasn't anyone I could use as a reference.

Nevertheless, even only getting Two-Handed Spear skill is a huge win. My learning rate seems to be quick no matter how you look at it.

After using Clear and Dry once again, I left the training ground.

Then I saw a crowd in front of the bulletin board. Are they checking out morning quests? Judging from my body clock it should be 9 o'clock now. That means this is the time when quests are updated. I've got to remember it.

"Oy, you!"

Someone called me when I was going to leave the place since I didn't feel like taking a quest for now.

"Me?"

"Yea, you."

Calling 'you' in the first meeting huh, quite a rude guy. He's together with several other people when I look again. Are they his party?

"You're the newbie that recently came to the 『Solomon Inn』 right?"

"Yes I am, do you have a business with me?"

"I'm giving you an advice as your senior. Don't get close to that woman. People call her 【Bloody War Maiden】. She's famous for getting people who get involved with her into a bloody mess."

By 'that woman', he means Kagura-san huh. He's giving an advice to a rookie sure, but it feels like he's pushing it on me. It makes me suspect if he has a grudge on her instead.

"Thank you for your advice. Was that all you want to talk about? Then I'll be excusing myself since I have other things to do."

I tried to leave the place since I had a feeling that getting involved would only lead to trouble.

But he grabbed my shoulder, impeding that thought.

"Oy oy, what's with the attitude after I went the trouble of warning you? Be grateful to it."

I'd like to ask what's with your attitude instead. Does he even know the phrase, small kindness can be too much.

"At least, I don't think giving advices by looking down on others is something admirable, senpai?"

"You brat."

A slim man interrupts us right when the man called Zack is about to get enraged.

"Stop it Zack. Anyone would get annoyed when you did it like that."

"Ah, aniki. But y'know, this guy...."

"Just leave it at that. Sorry about that newbie-kun. This guy didn't mean any harm. He just wanted to act like a senpai."

"It's fine. However, I felt that she wasn't a bad person when I talked to her a bit. So I got a bit offended and spoke out of line, sorry."

"I see. We're really sorry about that. Now then, I'd like to talk about something else...."

Mu, I felt that his atmosphere changed a bit. Is he trying to intimidate me.

"Stop making advances to the poster girl of 『Solomon Inn』, Minerva-chan!"

That's what you're going to say after that intimidation!?

"No err, I've never even had that in my mind though?"

"...What'd...you say!? But you did freely talk to Minerva-chan and seemed to get along well didn't you? You gave her some kind of present right? That lady is a true flower! A flower that we should protect from harm and not be picked!"

The members behind him nodded many times. Don't tell me, these guys! Lolicon! Are they for real!?

"We've had that conversation because I gave her boar meat for her father, the chef, to cook for me, isn't it only natural in a service industry?"

"Muu, then all is fine! Pardon me, it seems I got too excited."

Un, please really reflect on it. I mean, we're in front of the guild's board you know? Quite a bit of people are looking at us curiously. We're pointlessly standing out.

"But do not forget that we, 『Solomon Guardians』, are always watching. Well then!"

...I got too dumbfounded at what just happened. In other words, it was a declaration from a gentleman lolicon group that I'm being watched?

What the heck was thaaaaaat.

It's perplexing me so much I'd flip a tea table if there was one here.

For now let's check their strength while they're leaving the guild since I might get involved with them again in the future.

This one's the weakling that called me out first.

Name: Zack - Gender: Male - Age: 21 - Race: General Human

Class: Fighter Lv8 - State: Excited

Title: None - Party Name: 『Solomon Guardians』

【Skill】

Martial Art Lv2 - One-handed Axe Lv2 - Shield Art Lv2 - Sturdy Lv1 - Life Magic

The slim man who seems to be the leader.

Name: Gerckun - Gender: Male - Age: 89 - Race: Elf

Class: Spirit User Lv24 - State: Healthy

Title: 【Seeker of Lo Way】 - Party Name: 『Solomon Guardians』

【Skill】

One-handed Sword Lv3 - Archery Lv2 - Wind Magic Lv2 - Spirit Magic Lv3 - Life Magic - Flora Fauna Knowledge - Acrobat Lv2

【Seeker of Lo Way】 Title given to one who admires young buds. One careless mistake may lead to crimes.

Person 1 who didn't talk

Name: Guftas - Gender: Male - Age:20 - Race: General Human

Class: Magician Lv14 - State: Healthy

Title: None - Party Name: 『Solomon Guardians』

【Skill】

Whip Art Lv2 - Two-handed Staff Lv1 - Fire Magic Lv1 - Water Magic Lv1 - Life Magic

Person 2 who didn't talk

Name: Domtor - Gender: Male - Age:35 - Race: Dwarf

Class: Monk Lv16 - State: Healthy

Title: None - Party Name: 『Solomon Guardians』

【Skill】

Two-handed Staff Lv3 - Shield Art Lv2 - Holy Magic Lv2 - Life Magic

【Racial Traits】

【Liver of Steel】 Trait of Dwarves. One strong with booze even among dwarves.

I guess their party is a common mid-class party? I mean, the slim-man's title is surely problematic. Even though he's a 89 year old elf! Is his disposition well-known around here? YES lolita! NO touch!! An ero person once said that in the past.

And just when I got Two-handed Spear skill and got myself excited, this depressingly happened.

Looking at the receptionists, Eleanor-san isn't here either, guess I should go to Maurio-san's place. Tohohon.

Chapter 18: The Impactful Facet of Gramada

"Scuse me, is boss-san in?"

"Ou! You're here lad. By boss-san, you mean me?"

"Yes, it was a slip of tongue."

"Gahaha, I don't mind. I never heard that way of calling, but I like it."

"Then allow me to call you boss-san from now on. Have you finished adjusting the armor I asked yesterday?"

"I'm gonna need a bit more time. Gotta replace the fasteners, probs because they weren't used for a long time."

"Is that so, then for now, I'm going out to look for household goods and clothes."

"Got it. I recommend the 『Maniwa Store』 three buildings from here, they got some cheap and sturdy ones there. Their clothes are made for practicality

rather than for dressing. This overalls I'm wearing are from theirs too."

"I see, that sounds nice. I'll show myself up there right away."

"Ou."

I've got nothing to worry if it's a store recommended by Maurio-san the boss-san.

Three buildings... Oh, it's got a signboard, 『Maniwa Store』 there it is.

When I opened the door and went in, I saw clothes focusing on functionality lined up inside. These remind me of wa*man.

I often wore them in my farming era, so these feel nostalgic.

Every clothes has no decorations, and looks to be focusing on practicality and robustness.

"Ara, is that a customer over there I see? Welcome to 『Maniwa Store』."

I reflexively turned at the source of the voice and then I froze. Brown tanned

skin. Forged, toned body. Generously liberated chest.

"What's the matter nows? Did you fall for this onii-san?"

A macho wearing sunglasses and bikini pants talking in onee speech is standing there! This town is weird, why are there so many impactful things here...

"Ara? Are you so bewitched by this chest you're at loss for words? Being physically beautiful... is oh so sinful."

A moment later, the storekeeper disappeared.

"Now now, what do you desire? Clothes? Muscles? Or i s i t M E?"

Wuut! When did he get behind me!?

Aa... Let me state what just happened.

『I went into a store to buy some clothes and then a muscly brawny beefy macho was staring at my rear before I knew it.』

I don't know what I'm saying but I can't process what's happening either... My head hurts... It's nothing like hypnosis or accelerator thing... I caught a glimpse of a more terrifying homo...

What am I saying. I should quickly do my shopping and finish the business asap. Yes let's do that.

"I'm here to purchase some clothes as told by Maurio-san. I'd like to buy a set of casual wears and underwear that are also good for battling, do you have a recommendation?"

"Ara~ Mau-chan referred you? I've got to give it my all then. Judging from boya's height, they should be around here I think?"

"I see, let me have a look. Ah, do you also have needles and threads? I'd like to have a set for mending."

While picking the queued clothes, I asked the storekeeper.

"Oh I have the threads, but the needles are specially made by Maurio-chan so I can't sell them to you. If you know Maurio-chan, how about asking him to make one?"

"I see. Then I'd like to purchase a set of threads also these black wear and a pair of these white underwear."

"Oh my, that's quite a sombre choice. Since you're still young, I think you should have picked something flashier."

No no, impossible. I can't wear something flashy like red or orange. My favorite colors are black, navy blue and white. I sewed the work clothes in my home after all. Ah, I'm gonna make some later.

"I was raised by my grandpa and only ever wore plain clothes. I can't settle down with something else now."

"Oh I see, then the thread is 30 mani, the black wear is 600 mani, the white underwear set is 200 mani, 830 mani in total but since Mauricio-chan referred boya, 800 mani is fine."

"Thank you very much. Then, I'll be excusing myself."

I took 800 mani out of my rucksack, gave it to the storekeeper and got the hell out as fast as humanly possible.

Phew, that was scary. There's still some time till noon.

Come to think of it, Futsuno-san's inn should be around this area. I've finished registering and all, maybe I should leave them some words?

I refer the information board to look for 『Dog of Flame Inn』 where Futsuno-san and Mitama are staying. Oh, it's closer than I thought. Let's get to it.

"Hey, welcome."

A distinctive employee welcomed me when I entered the inn. His protruding teeth and his strangely shaped hat are impactful. It feels like I've seen him somewhere, but it must have been my imagination.

"Excuse me, I heard that this was the inn where the two of 『Tail of Wind』 were staying, could I meet them?"

"Ah, those two huh? Sorry, but I ain't gonna be your go-between or something, okay?"

"No well they personally told me to come here. And that I should leave a

message if they aren't present."

"Hm? Now that you mention it, they said something 'bout getting saved by a boy in their last quest. You that boy?"

"I probably am. My name is Nobusada. Are the two in? I'd like to leave a message if they aren't."

"They're not now. They went somewhere first thing in the morning."

"Then could you tell them, 『I was able to register as an adventurer thanks to you two. I'm staying at 『Solomon's Pavilion』, please contact me there if you need anything.』 for me?"

"Gotcha, I'll relay it to them when they're back. 『Solomon's Pavilion』 huh. You picked a good inn."

"Yes, the guild recommended it."

"It was an inn good for beginners was it. If you rank up and think of changing inn, ours' a good choice y'know?"

"Since Mitama praised the food here, I'll keep it in mind if I ever do that."

"Hahaa, Mitama praised our food huh. I'm Storm. Nice to meetcha'
Nobusada."

This person feels like someone who used to be a rascal and settled down to work seriously. He must be a good person enough for Futsuno-san and Mitama to be regulars here.

Name: Storm - Gender: Male - Age: 26 - Race: General Human

Class: Merchant Lv 18 - State: Healthy

Title: ???

【Skill】

Martial Art Lv3 - Fire Magic Lv3 - Negotiation Lv3 - Serving Lv3 - Acrobatics Lv2
- Life Magic

Uhoo, he's higher leveled than Kyle. Ah, but he has fire magic even though he's a merchant. There must be a reason for that.

"Storm-san, were you an adventurer?"

"Hou, I'm surprised you can tell. I was formerly a magician working as an adventurer, but my old man kicked the bucket y'see. When I heard the news, I quit the job and went to help at this inn."

I see. So that's why magic is mixed in his class.

"Well, Nobusada, just don't get ahead of yourself ya hear me? There are many times you think you could go on when you should've retreated."

"Thank you for your advice."

The weight of words from a veteran is different. Ah, since he was a magician, he probably knows that thing?

"This might sound so sudden, but do you know a store that handles magic tools you could recommend?"

"Magic tools are pricey y'know? Don't think it's something a beginner should care about."

"No well, actually I wanted to ask about the price of this

Magic Rucksack

I inherited as a memento."

"Ah, then yeah, you'd better know that. Some people might aim for it. Got it, this is for the sake of the future generations of adventurers. I'll introduce you to an acquaintance of mine."

"Oh! Thank you very much!!"

"I was in a party with her back then. She might be a bit weird, but her skill is the real deal. Here, she shouldn't do anything bad if you show this to her. It's a store with a weird name, 『Shut-in Lamia』, at the outskirts of the town."

"I'll be heading there then. I'll come by again later."

"Ou yo, try our dish next time."

"Yes, I'm looking forward to it."

Umu, he really is a nice person. I was on guard since I kept meeting with odd

people, but guess they all wouldn't be like that.

After 30 minutes of walking... I arrived at the outskirts of the town. It's deserted alright. Can anyone open a business here?

Just when I thought I made a wrong turn somewhere, I found a store that looked like an annex of a big mansion with a small sign.

It is open, but I don't see any customers.

"Excuse me, is the store open?"

I opened the door and asked inside, but there was no answer. The inside is crowded with apparatus.

"Yes, who is it?"

After a while, I heard footsteps from the back of the store. The storekeeper sure sounded quite sexy.

The one who came out of the store back was a fair-skinned tall woman. Her long blue hair is bundled into a bun on the back, making her nape look sexy.

She could've looked like an intellectual beauty with the monocle she's wearing, but that comes to nothing due to the clothes she's wearing. I'm afraid my eyes will lock on her almost visible breasts.

"Storm-san told me about this store so I came here to see some magic tools."

I gave her the letter of introduction.

"Stoorm? Ah, bucktooth-chan... how nostalgic."

Ooh, she said it so bluntly. Wonder if she's a type who doesn't mince words?

"So? What is it that boya wants to know?"

"First of all, I'd like to learn magic rucksacks' market price and potions."

"Yes yes, then come here."

Several rucksacks were put there.

"Don't take them out okay. Cause I've put a curse on them to prevent thievery."

Uwoo, here comes surprising anti-theft tech!

Looks like the price changes in accordance to the capacity. And here goes the appraisal result and the listed price!

Magic Rucksack

Quality: Common - Enclosed Mana 1/1

Remark: Can hold up to 20Kg

Price: 20.000 mani

Magic Rucksack

Quality: Good - Enclosed Mana 1/1

Remark: Can hold up to 20Kg

, things stored inside the rucksack deteriorate slower.

Price: 30.000 mani

Magic Rucksack

Quality: Common - Enclosed Mana 3/3

Remark: Can hold up to 60Kg

Price: 60.000 mani

It seems each Enclosed Mana increases the capacity by 20kg. The price increases by 1.5 times when the quality increases. In other words, the one I have is amazingly about 120.000 mani worth. Simply outrageous.

"Umm, clerk-san, could you show me the potions?"

"Just call me Sefi. Especially since boya is cute."

I had a cold sweat since it felt like I'd get eaten for a second there. Is it a sign of her carnivorous nature!?

And here's the surprising appraisal result of this onee-san called Sefi-san !!

Name: Sefirot Nevia - Gender: Female - Age:? - Race: Lamia Kind (disguised as General Human)

Class: Alchemist Lv42

Title: ???

【Skill】

Two-handed Spear Lv4 - Water Magic Lv6 - Wind Magic Lv5 - Transform Lv4 - Alchemy Lv7 - Disguise Lv7 - Life Magic

You haven't trained enough to know her three sizes!(ㄟㄏㄟ)

It's really surprisiiiiing!? Huuh, those Transform and Disguise things are obviously higher leveled than my Discerning Magic Eyes, but I could saw through them? How do these stuff work exactly???

No no, the Lamia Kind part is more important. Is it really okay for her to be in the middle of this town? I guess that's why she's disguising herself, I've gotta be absolutely sure not to let it slip. Talking to her doesn't feel different to talking to a human at all, or rather, she's easy to talk with.

I really don't want to make someone like that become a victim of

discrimination because of my fault.

There's no point in thinking about these backward things. Oh yeah, I've got some materials for potion. Let's ask if she can buy them.

"Sefi-san. Could I sell these here?"

I took Hira Grass and Gedo Grass I had gathered back then out of my rucksack.

"Umm, materials for low potions right. They're in excellent condition. And best of all, they still have their root, nice."

Ho ho, so I was right to pluck them whole.

"They're more effective when they still have the root attached. Lots of adventurers don't know that and treat them roughly. You have a promising future."

"Ah, my name is Nobusada. Since I have just registered as an adventurer the other day, I'd really appreciate it if you could show me the ropes."

"Ara ara, fresh out of the oven. I liiike people like boya."

Sefi-san put her arms around me while saying that. Those are touching my arm, like 'ponyon', they're really touching. I'm happy for this, but she won't be charging extra right?

"Do you accept bartering instead of purchasing? I made a bit too much and had many leftover potions you see."

"I don't mind. I only have one in stock myself."

Potion x4

Quality: Good - Expiration date: 3 months

Effect: Slightly recover HP. Either drinking or putting on the wound is effective. Tastes bad.

Cure Potion x2

Quality: Good - Expiration date: 4 months

Effect: Nullify simple poison. Either drinking or putting on the affected part is effective. Tastes bad.

I exchanged them for these. For some reason, now I know the remaining day to their expiration. A huge convenience for a house-husband! But It's only evolving to that kind of directioooooon.

"Then, I'll come again. If I find something usable as materials, I'll bring them here. If you don't mind, please teach about me alchemy next time."

"Yes, I'll be looking forward to it. See-You-Again?"

I left the store while getting startled at her sexy smile. Un, let's come here again. I feel like I've understood the feeling of people who regularly visits cabaret a bit. It was a world I had no relation with since I couldn't drink sake.

Now then, the time is right. Let's grab some grub and get back to the boss's place.

"Boss-saan, I'm here."

"Ou, you came at the right time. I was just finished."

A set of armor with uniform dark blue color are lined up on top of the desk. He was probably working on it without even taking lunch. He looks obviously tired.

I'm glad I bought skewers for boss-san's shares because I had a feeling that he would overwork himself.

"Thank you very much. You haven't taken lunch have you? I brought these on my way here, please have them."

"Oh, sorry bout that. It's a bad habit of mine to skip meals and rest when I'm getting too absorbed."

Boss-san begins his explanation about my equipment while biting the skewers.

"I'm gonna explain while eating. The knuckle guard is recycled onto the gauntlet. Use them by detaching the fist part. They're all made from Iron Ant's crust, so they're light and sturdy. You shouldn't get that much damage in a beginner dungeon with them on. I've only installed them on the needed parts as to not hinder movement, keep that in mind when you're evading."

Iron Ant Slip Guard - Iron Ant Leggings - Iron Ant Gauntlet (Knuckle Guard Forearm)

Quality: Common - Enclosed Mana 2/2

Remark: Armor processed from Iron Ant's crust

"Are you sure? These are all so nice."

"No worries, I mainly worked with metals so I rarely had chance to handle monster material. I only made these since my lil' brother asked. When I think about it now, I should have listened to his opinions more. Well, that's the gist of it, so they normally ain't for sale. There is no problem in you lad using 'em."

"I'll make sure to come back alive and report to you about their usability."

"Haha, that's the spirit, don't die on me."

"Yes!"

Alright! I'm perfectly ready now!

Time for my first dungeon challenge!

Chapter 19: First-Time-Dungeon

"I can carry your luggage for you~. 300 mani for half a day~! Leave the physical labors to me~~."

"We're looking for someone who can use magic as our rear guard. Anyone want to improve themselves together with us in the dungeon~?"

"We have potions and cure potions here. Get yourself ready before you get hurt~."

Arrived at the entrance of Gramada Central Dungeon! There's a big crystal installed near the entrance. It's called Gate Crystal, it controls the traffic of people that come and go to the thing called Port Crystal on a particular floor.

Of course this thing can only be installed on a dungeon that has been put under control.

This dungeon is called Fonbran Dungeon. Also known as, 『Dungeon of Growth』. There are no strong monsters on the shallower floors so it's perfect for beginners.

It's almost 2:00 PM now. The area around the dungeon's entrance is relatively bustling. It's full of porters (baggage carrier) waiting to be hired, stands selling

medicines, maps and such, and people soliciting for temp parties. Of course, I'm going solo though.

Since I still can't tell left from right, let's gather some intel for now.

"Hey pops, how's business?"

"Eh not bad. Newbies still keep coming but they always dived in first things ya see. Only bought maps and stuff once they were in a world of pain."

"Well, I'm here to buy a map since it's my first time. How much is a map for this dungeon?"

"The whole 1-5F are 500 mani. 6-10F are 700 mani. 11-15F are 900 mani. The last floor 16F has randomized layouts so ain't no one selling the map."

"I see I see. I'll have the 1-5F map for now. I'm gonna take it step by step."

"Here ya go, thanks for yer patronage."

He gave me a bundle of five rolled parchments.

"The ▼ symbol marked on the maps are the floor crystals that carry you down. They're floor crystals that connect to the crystal on the floor below. △ ones would bring you back up one floor. There's a port crystal every five floors that'll bring ya back to the entrance."

"Hou hou, you sure are thorough."

"This dungeon is under control but some parts do change at times. Would ya report it to me if you find one of those changes? You can get a handsome sum if the info isn't known. I'm hedging my bets here since ya look like someone who understands the importance of intel."

"Gotcha, well, first I gotta get accustomed to it."

"Get back in one piece ya hear me. Yer' my important lunch tickets after all."

Gahahaha, the old man laughs heartily.

"Hahaha, I'm off then."

Town civil servants called Administrators are collecting admission fee at the entrance. The fee is 100 mani. Whether that's expensive or cheap will depend on my earnings from now on.

From the admission gate, I set my foot into the dungeon.

A huge floor spread out when I descended the stairs. True to the map, it seems to be a large hall on 1F.

There are parties and solo people here and there. Judging from a rough outlook, everyone seems to be a beginner.

For now, I'd like to try many things so let's look for an unpopulated place by relying on the map.

By the way the inside of this dungeon is bright, dunno how that works. I should manage as long as I didn't get caught off guard then.

I slowly advance ahead while gripping an iron sword. I still don't know what will come out, so using this sword I'm used to is better. I have throwing knives ready to be thrown any time.

As I advance ahead while straining my ears, suddenly I can hear something breathing roughly from beyond a turn ahead.

I tiptoed with my back on the on the wall, peeked and saw a dog there.

Pawn Dog Lv3

HP: 15/15 MP: 0/0

The lowest ranked underling dog. They're good at group battles, can be a menace if you're surrounded by many.

It looks like a Doberman but a bit skinnier. That makes it look very hungry instead. Either way, I've got to focus.

I check that nobody is around. Alright, let's shoot a magic as the first strike and bring it down in close combat.

I wait until it turns its back here and take my aim.

"Fire Arrow (whisper)."

An arrowed appeared in the air and went straight to the Pawn Dog.

Hm, it turned around!? Did it notice my voice? I throw a throwing knife as an

additional attack. I immediately ready my iron sword and wait for the opponent's next move.

GYAWAN

Ah, the fire arrow hit. The knife is also stuck on it. Huh? The dog fell, like plop....

Pawn Dog Lv3

HP: 1/15 MP: 0/0

Err.... For now let's carefully approach and finish it off. Apparently, it ended into a deadly combo of getting hit by the fire in the face, causing oxygen deprivation followed by the getting pierced by the knife.

The killed Pawn Dog became particles of light and dispersed. Unlike on the outside, looks like you can't strip off monsters here. Since not even a Soul Stone remains, I wonder if I can expect drop items from them.

I steadily hunt monsters while heading to a place that seems unpopular according to the map.

However, I've only ever been encountering Pawn Dogs. I've already hunted 40 of them but only got 3 Soul Stones. Moreover, they're black. I'm advancing while covering myself in Mana Clad to decrease minor damages, swinging the iron sword, firing fire arrows. The hunt is going steady but the drops are depressingly bad.

I saw a small room on my left as I pushed on. The inside...hm? There's a chest?

Is this perhaps, perhaps this is?

I'll take a little break in front of the room while inflating the expectation in my heart.

Presently, my potions still fully remain. HP and MP are full. Preparation is perfect. Prepare to charge!

I invoke Mana Clad as I walk into the small room.

Something wrong happened the moment I went inside the small room.

With a 'VOOON' sound, the path I took to go inside the room was blocked by black mist-like thing. I tried to get out of the room, but I couldn't get past the

black mist for some reason.

"I only ever got right when it seemed bad, really now."

Oh damn, something's coming!?

A group of dogs overflowed from inside black mist that looked like it was protecting the chest.

Pawn Dog Lv3

x 4

HP: 15/15 MP: 0/0

Knight Dog Lv6

HP: 30/30 MP: 2/2

A type of high-ranking dog accompanied by underlings.

There's a new one among them1?

The white haired dog is Knight Dog huh.

Anyway, in a one vs many, I've got to decrease their numbers first!

"Fire Arrow!"

The target is a Pawn Dog. Next, I throw throwing knives while moving around to disperse their aim.

The fire arrow hit one dog, and while most of the throwing knives missed, one of it hit another dog's leg.

Its movement looks obviously slower after losing its mobility.

But then, the Knight Dog suddenly howls!

AOOOOOOOOOON

Guuh, my ears hurt.

With the howl as a signal, three Pawn Dogs rushed at me all at once.

I mowed down and killed one dog, but the other two's fangs pierced my left leg and right thigh.

OWWWWWWWWWWW

Even though I'm covered in Mana Clad, it still feels really hurt. It feels like stepping on a nail with sneakers on.

While enduring the pain, I hit the Pawn Dogs' heads with my free hand and the sword's grip.

However, the Knight Dog assaulted me during that chance.

Even though I twisted my body to evade it, its claw grazed and easily cut my left hand.

Uwaa, its power is on a completely different level than Pawns'.

I keep moving around while healing myself with Heal. This could get very dangerous if they started coordinating well.

Ah, they moved while I was thinking. Sneaking around like they're watching my movement.

Is there something, anything? I've used up all the knives... Fire arrows can't stop them....

Ah! Wonder if I can use that? I haven't checked if I can invoke it, but I'm gonna give it a try.

The moment they jump at me, I jump back and powerfully voice out the words.

"Flame Wall!"

A wall of flame raises up from the ground in front of me.

I feel my strength getting drained at a stretch at the same time. Looks like I used up quite a bit of mana.

No surprise there, since a wall of flame bigger than Futsuno-san's came up.

The dogs that jumped into the flame wall got burnt and writhed.

But the Knight Dog alone hasn't lost its fighting spirit even though it's covered in flame!

I ready my iron sword, use up the remaining mana to strengthen Mana Clad and stare at the Knight Dog.

The Knight Dog rushes in while howling.

However, its movement isn't that sharp, even the current me can manage it!

I aim at its opened mouth that's trying to bite me and horizontally slash it.

"HAAAAAA"

Even though I felt some resistance from the meat, the Knight Dog got cut up into two from the mouth back and fell down like splat.

I feel relieved since it went well somehow, but there's still some Pawn Dogs remaining. Let's finish off the ones that haven't disappeared one by one.

And then the dogs disappeared into lights without a sound.

Afterward, a small stone that's different from the ones I got so far falls on the place.

"Ooh, it's red. A red Soul Stone."

If I'm not mistaken this ranks higher than the black one. One of the Pawn Dogs also dropped two Soul Stones. Dunno how it works, but at least this means I didn't work for free. Ah, I recall something I forgot to do, I haven't sold the Soul Stone I got from the goblin back then.

Tereretettette~♪ Nobusada Leveled Up.

Name: Nobusada Izumi - Gender: Male - Race: General Human?

Class: Fighter Lv9 - State: Healthy

Title: 【Moss Ball Killer】

HP: 30/80 - MP: 12/82

【Skill】

Etania Native Language - Differing Soul Communication Lv1 - Magic Development Lv1 - Houseworks Lv5 - Agriculture Lv3 - Swordsmanship Lv2 - Two-handed Spear Lv1 (New!) - Throwing Lv2 (Up!) - Evasion Lv1 - Holy Magic Lv 1 - Elemental Magic Aptitude Lv2 - Life Magic - Disguise Lv2 - Mana Clad Lv2

【Unique Skill】

Discerning Magic Eyes Lv3 - Levelitt's Blessing (Small)

<TLN: If you're reading this novel at any other site than Sousetsuka .com you might be reading an unedited, uncorrected version of the novel.>

Ooh, my level went up by two, perhaps from the accumulation of the battles so far. Looks like Level God's blessing is working well. If I make something next time, I'm gonna offer some to her.

And getting Throwing skill leveled up is plainly nice.

For now, I heal myself to recover my HP.

Oh right, there was a chest, completely forgot about it because the heat of the battle.

There is a treasure chest, or rather a wooden-like chest. There's no keyhole or anything, but how about traps? Sadly, I don't have that type of skills. Preparing for the worst, let's open it while guarding my face with gauntlets.

With a creaking sound, the chest plainly opened.

There's a small bottle inside.

The heck is this?

I appraise it while looking at it dubiously.

Shut-in Dokugael Poison

Quality: Crude - Expiration: Way pass

Poison made from a poison sac of Shut-in Dokugael that is quite hard to find since they like to shut themselves deep in a cave. The quality is bad so it can't be sold.

Some dangerous stuff came out!

It's Object X that needs to be handled with caution. This is that huh, I will eventually use it by smearing throwing knives with it. Since the quality is bad, its effect is probably lacking, but it should be useful somehow or other.

I take a rest in the small room while leaning my back on the wall. I've lost quite a lot of both stamina and MP, it's tough.

I attempt to recover myself by gnawing on the few remaining fruits I have.

After recovering to some extent, I resume the single minded dog hunting.

I also tried to use an iron spear, but using it in a real battle was quite different as expected. Nevertheless, I managed somehow since the opponents were just dogs. I also tried to use a bow, but I couldn't get a hit in at all due to the lack of training. Let's ask Mitama the knack for it at least next time.

The drop rate for Soul Stones was low though. Think it's around 10%. I only got 3 Soul Stones from hunting 30 dogs after the break. Is this just how the way it is, or is my real luck extremely low.... I pray that it's not the latter. No really seriously.

By the way, after that time I didn't encounter any more Knight Dog. Wonder if that was a really special pop up?

Tettere~♪ Acquired **【Dog Hunter】** Title.

Ooh, I got something.

【Dog Hunter】 Hunter of dogs. A title given to those who hunted a large number of dogs. It has the effect of scaring wild dogs if you get close to one.

What a dubious title. Won't I be unable to hunt if I use it?

Guess I'll leave it alone for now.

And then I bumped into another small room while wandering around looking for dogs. It's not the same room from before.

What should I do? I still haven't used a potion. HP is at 80%, MP is at 70%.

There's something I'd like to try if the enemy have the same formation as that time.

Alright! Let's give it a try after resting a bit. This should be the last considering the time anyway.

Ah, since I'm likely going to have an encounter anyway, might as well make use of that.

There's a wooden chest inside the room again. I step into the room while readying the iron spear and strengthening Mana Clad. Suddenly, the door becomes impassable and black mist hangs over the center of the room again.

Pawn Dog Lv3

x 5

HP: 15/15 MP: 0/0

Knight Dog Lv7

HP: 35/35 MP: 2/2

OH, there's more of them. And the level is higher too.

Argh, first strike leads to victory! Eat thiiiiiiiis!

I face the Knight Dog.... And throw an Iron Spear with all my might at it!!

GYAWAN

Aw yeaah! The iron spear pierced through the Knight Dog's torso!!

The Pawn Dogs flinched when they saw that. Here's my chance, let's go!

"Fire Arrow!"

While moving and shooting a fire arrow, I aim and throw throwing knives one

after another.

The fire arrow hit the Knight Dog right in the face. It's bleeding a lot since it's writhing with the spear still stuck. How tragic. The knives pierced two Pawn Dogs.

Not sure if this made two other Pawn Dogs regained their sense or if it triggered them more, but they jumped on me.

However, their movements are dull and obviously frightened. Titles sure are quite effective.

That's right, I had changed my title to 【Dog Hunter】 before going inside.

I draw my iron sword and counter slash at them.

The head of one of the jumping dogs said its farewell to its body, while the other dog went to bite my left leg. Ouch ouch, it's digging deeper than before. I kicked it with all my might like saying, "Don't be afraid, the ball is your friend", separating it away.

<TLN: Captain Tsubasa's reference.>

GYAUN

The Pawn Dog flew in the air while yelping. It flew straight to the other frightened dogs. I let off a magic to finish them off.

"Flame Wall!"

Normally this magic is used to block enemy's charge, but I will be having it to annihilate them in this instance.

This flame wall is shorter yet wider compared to the one I used before, though I did it spontaneously. Wonder if I unconsciously controlled it to make it easier to annihilate them? Perhaps, its shape can be changed by the will of its user. This needs to be checked in the future. Ah, I've got to heal myself.

The flame wall receded and the rounded scorched bodies of the dogs were all that remain. I'm the one who did it and all but it's truly tragic.

Tereretettette~♪ Nobusada leveled up

Tettere~♪ Class level exceeds 10, Second Class is liberated

Tettere~♪ Liberated new classes

Ooh, something has come!

Name: Nobusada Izumi - Gender: Male - Race: General Human?

Class: Fighter Lv10 - State: Healthy

Title: 【Dog Hunter】

HP: 46/85 - MP: 30/82

【Skill】

Etania Native Language - Differing Soul Communication Lv1 - Magic Development Lv1 - Houseworks Lv5 - Agriculture Lv3 - Swordsmanship Lv3 (Up!) - Two-handed Spear Lv2 (Up!) - Throwing Lv2 (Up!) - Mana Clad Lv2 - Evasion Lv2 (Up!) - Holy Magic Lv 2 (Up!) - Elemental Magic Aptitude Lv3 (Up!) - Life Magic - Disguise Lv2

【Class Skill】

Provocation

【Unique Skill】

Discerning Magic Eyes Lv3 - Levelitt's Blessing (Small)

Looks like Level God splurged, lotsa things have leveled up. Wonder if Second Class means I can gain experience for two classes at the same time. That's nice! I guess Class Skill is a class-specific skill. Also, having the elemental magic and holy magic aptitude increased is nice. Think I should study about magic at the guild reference room tomorrow. Doing things without prior knowledge is getting dangerous.

When I wished to put a class on the unset slot, the displayed liberated info had increased.

Otherworlder, Fist Fighter, Monk, Magician, Shaman, Merchant, Farmer, Househusband, Thief, Hunter.

Hunter is probably because I used a bow, Thief is maybe because I opened chests? Not really sure about Shaman. If I have to say, it's probably something to do with those black mist rooms.

For now, let's go with Thief for First and Otherworlder for Second. It'll be most satisfactory if Thief gets presence detection type of skills, Otherworlder is for raising MP. Having a lot of MP is better for experimenting.

And the long-awaited drops.... Knight Dog's red Soul Stone gotchaaaaa!

There's nothing more.... Looks like my Real Luck is really at rock bottom.

I carefully opened the wooden chest and inside it is.... T-three copper coins!?

Ya think I'm an errand kiiiiiid.

I went my way back while slightly tasting the bitter emptiness. Dammit, I'm gonna get my revenge for sure.

Chapter 20: Would You Defend Bunny Ears!

"Small~ change~♪ Small~ change~♪ turn~ into big change~ if you save~♪"

I got back from the dungeon while humming a parody of a certain Tara* commercial song.

Hi, Nobusada who's turning into a miser here.

Breaking into a smile when I only got small change even though I wanted to go out with a bang must be the proof of my prepubescent age.

I tried to see if I could use skills of other classes on my way back, and there was no problem. Monsters came charging at me when I provokingly shouted out loud. At State: Enraged.

And now me just got to the guild you know?

...Looks like I'm still excited by my first dungeon. My tension is a bit weird.

The sun has set already and there's a few people in the guild.

I probably should sell all the few piled up Soul Stones I have. Which means,

time to go to the counter where I sold the wild boar before.

"Excuse me, would it be alright if I sell my Soul Stones here?"

When I called out, the tough looking old man I met before came out.

"Umu, you can do that here dearu."

"Then could you please assess them."

"Let me see, seven black pebble Soul Stones and two red Soul Stones dearuka. If we consider the enclosed mana... 90 mani each for the black one, and 520 mani each for the red one dearu. This already includes the commission fee, so the total is 1,670 mani dearuna. Are you fine with that?"

By the way, I'm planning to show the poison stuff to Sefi-san later, so it's not included here now.

"Yes, if you please."

16,700 yen in half a day fights. Considering I'm risking my life on the line,

wonder if that's too low or too high...

Well, I ended up getting out with my life and grew up too. Since I'm in the black anyway, everything's fine. Let's think so.

Ah, the purchasing counter old man seems to be called Ranba-san. Appraisal? I didn't use it, I just looked at his name tag. I've had more than enough fill of old man element today.

Let's finish the business and go back to the inn to get some rest. Wonder what's the chef's recommendation today. I've earned some money and got some optional stuff after all, no harm in rewarding myself, right!

The dining room was overflowing with adventurers when I got there. Specifically drunkards, lots of them.

Minerva-chan and the other waitress are running around hectically among them.

"We need one bottle of ale. With French fries for the snack please."

"Here's three spit-roast set. And another two, bring them out."

"Please hold the grill set. We don't have enough hands."

<TLN: If you're reading this novel at any other site than Sousetsuka .com you might be reading an unedited, uncorrected version of the novel.>

Umu, it's a battlefield.

Err, where's an open seat... Ah, the seat on the counter I sat on earlier is open, lucky me.

One waitress approached me when I sat. It's a 12-13 year old bunny ear girl. This cute bunny ear girl seems to be vice-chef Rakog-san's daughter. I happened to overhear it yesterday.

Which means, ladies and gentlemen, Rakog-san (a man in his forties whose forehead has a case of receding hair) is also bunny eared!

Bunny ear old man! Who asked for this!!

However, that might be an inescapable reality if we want to preserve the bloodline of bunny ears. Ah, by the way, he's usually wearing a tall chef hat or

something so the ears ain't usually visible.

"Thank you for waiting. May I take your order."

"Fruit juice and the recommended set special please. Oh and spit-roast set too."

"Yes, it might take a bit. Please wait a moment."

Oh wait I will. My stomach is waiting for the chef's dish. Ah, I can't get enough of this cooking smell.

But they really look busy. I can see the kitchen from here, I'm amazed that they can keep it together with how few they are. Wonder what'd happen if even one of them collapsed.

I look around the store interior while waiting for my meals.

Many of the customers are young people. Geh, there's the lolicon party too.

You guys, don't detain Minerva-chan. That's a fail. This place would get jammed if you stop even one in this busy time.

Ah they got scolded by Minerva-chan and looked like going to cry, pu.

Our eyes almost met when I almost spurted out my drink so I hurriedly turned around.

Oh right, they probably don't have refrigerator so there's no cold beverages.

The climate here is nice, neither cold or hot, wonder if they have four seasons here.

"Thank you for waiting. Here's the set special and fruit juice. I'll bring you the roast spit in a bit, so please wait okay."

Yay, meals.

The set special today is chicken cutlet! Aah, I'm craving for some rice. I don't particularly dislike bread, but a Japanese has to have their rice with cutlet after all. I still ended up eating everything while I was feeling nostalgic about rice before the spit roast came. Chef, this is just too good.

CRASSSSH

Everyone turned around at the source of the sound.

It seems bunny ear-chan bumped into an adventurer and dropped a porcelain cup.

"M-My apologizes, honored guest. I will bring the replacement right away."

"You damn beast! You went and dirtied my brand new armor!"

Looking closer, the potato soup that was in the cup is very slightly spilt on his armor.

Still, damn beast he said?! What violent words he spat out.

His party members next to him are not stopping him, or rather they're

grinning. Uwaah, they're the type of people I absolutely don't wanna befriend.

"Hii, I-I'm sorry. I'll wipe it off."

Bunny ear-chan took out a handkerchief and timidly extend her hand to wipe the adventurer's armor.

But those hands were violently knocked before reaching the armor.

"Don't touch me you beast! If ya really feel sorry, go get me a new one. This is Red Helm Leather Armor, so it cost 20,000 mani tho'."

It doesn't look like something that nice though....

Red Helm Bear Leather Armor (?)

Quality: Very Bad - Enclosed Mana: 0/0

Remarks: A leather armor made of Wash Bear. Since it's forcefully made to look like Red Helm Bear outwardly, the quality is inferior and it barely has defensive power.

Yep, it's genuinely a counterfeit product. Wash Bear... Wait Araiguma (Common Raccoon)!?

Wait, this isn't the time for this. I break through the crowd and run to where bunny ear-chan is in a hurry.

"Hii, no. I can't afford that much with my wages..."

"In the first place, yer' a sore here. What are you gonna do if that fur of yers get into my meal you carry. Aa, just cough it up will ya? Or maybe I should sell you to the slave trader!"

I got in-between them right when the man was going to grab bunny ear-chan's hands. Phew, made it.

"Haahn, what do you think yer' doing, you brat."

"Now now, let's all calm down, senpai. Your rank seems to be high judging by your appearance, let us settle this like an adult we are."

"Shut it! Where'd ya came from. You charged here fully aware that we we're D rank party 『Eimesvi』 didn't ya."

No, I don't know you guys at all. D means that they're the same rank as Mitama's party huh. But their quality as people are really far apart...

"No well, I just got here recently, so I really don't know, sorry. And about that armor, I can judge a little you see, it's made of a different material isn't it. It's of Wash Bear no matter how I look at it, so I don't think that armor should cost that much."

--Wash Bear he said.

--Then it shouldn't even worth 1000 mani ain't it?

--Pu, after haggling so hard he still got tricked for a counterfeit.

The gallery peanut snickered at him. That's fine and all, but isn't there anyone here going to stop him? Is it because they all know they're D rank?

The male adventurer is red in rage for getting pointed out. Oh right, I don't

even know his name.

Name: Gian - Gender: Male - Age: 27 - Race: General Human

Class: Fist Fighter Lv18 - State: Enraged

Title None - Party Name: 『Eimesvi』

【Skill】

Fist Art Lv 3 - Theft Lv1 - Evasion Lv1 - Life Magic

Oy oy oy, what the heck is Theft. Is that a skill too? It's frustrating but he's stronger than me.

"Ya asked for iit! C'mere outside ya damn brat. First time I got this humiliated. I'mma beat ya to death."

Tehe, I provoked him naturally. Well, I got his attention away from bunny ear-chan so my initial goal is accomplished.

Can I survive through this! Next time, Nobusada flying in the air! Please look

forward to Nobusada's flying style!

Chapter 21: Gutsy Nobusada

This place is the street in front of 『Solomon Pavilion』.

And I'm facing off against a thug-looking adventurer at that street full of pedestrian traffic. My opponent is obviously stronger than me. However, I do not regret provoking him. I'm not shitty enough to abandon an animal girl.

The surrounding onlookers have gathered around us.

--Now, get it on! Which one you're betting on? One minute is the most popular odd right now!! The next one is three minutes, and a draw is the losing bet!

Oy yo, don't use this to gamble you guys. Moreover, even a draw is against all odd huh.

"Are you ready shitty brat. I'll execute ya, kuhaha. I'll turn you into a human sandbag."

Uwaah, what bad taste. He's licking his lips eww.

Let's change my First Class back to Fighter. To even the odd even a little.

This Gian guy party members have positioned themselves in all directions around me to prevent me from escaping.

By the way, I don't have the Iron Ant breastplate on me right now. I unequipped it since I was having a meal. Just great eh. Fortunately, I've got the gauntlet and leggings on, so it's not the end of the world.

Since my mana has fully recovered, I put a thin but sturdy co*do*-san-like Mana Clad coating on my body.

Come to think of it, feels like my mana recovers very fast, wonder how it is with other people.

Oops, now's not the time to be lost in thought. Gotta focus on his movements.

"What're ya daydreamin' about. Are ya done sayin' goodbye to yer' life. Come on oraaa."

He unleashed a straight punch from his right in a karate-like stance. Oh crap, he's fast!?

I'd like to evade it if I could, but I won't make it. I try to block it somehow with my gauntlet.

BOOOM

Ouchhhh. The vibrations shook my whole body even though the gauntlet blocked the attack.

So this is the fist of a pro.

"Ora oraa, I ain't done yeeet. Ya got no time to coweeeeer."

Gian came attacking with right, left, right combination of onslaught.

I evaded the first one, guarded the second one and got hit in the face by the third one.

I reflexively bent my head back and almost fainted there.

And then the pain assailed me after a slight time gap. My left cheek is stinging with dull pain.

Dammit, I can't read his movements at all. They're like a mix of karate and boxing. I don't know much about martial arts in the first place, I can't think up of any way to deal with it.

For now, I'll solidify my guard and observe the opponent's moves.

"Kuhahaha, what's wrong. Where'd yer bravado earlier go. Yer' huddling yourself like a turtleee."

Pain runs from my gauntlet. How is this guy even fine hitting gauntlets this much anyway?

I measure my opponent's tempo while thinking about that and looking for a chance to counter.

"Oraaa, it's bedtime for yaaaa!"

When Nobusada's hand finally fell limply, Gian made a huge swing.

The straight right hit Nobusada in the face again.

And right at that time, both of Nobusada's hands caught the hand that reached to his face.

"W-whaaat!?"

And then he stepped in toward his opponent's chest and sprung up.

Gian's view revolved. From the onlooker's perspective, he's drawing a circle in the air.

And then he hit the ground with a BAAAAM sound. Next, Nobusada hurled his body on him.

"GAHAA!"

Gian fainted in agony after losing air from his lungs.

The peanut gallery around cheered for the surprising development.

It has been five minutes since the start of the fight and the only bet left is a draw.

People who bet on his lost also watched the match. After all, it was a D rank Vs an F rank. Nobody thought he would persevered this far.

Thank you buddy. I never thought that the 『Judo Vertical Play』 we played around during gym class would come in handy.

Nobusada stood up while wiping the blood around his mouth with his sleeve and took some distance away.

Gian slowly stood up.

His veins are popping so hard in anger you can visually check it.

"killkiLLKILLKILL"

Whoops, did I just add fuel to the fire.



<TLN: If you're reading this novel at any other site than Sousetsuka .com you might be reading an unedited, uncorrected version of the novel.>

"All right, Kyle. You worked hard today. Let me treat you to dinner."

"T-thank you very much. Captain-commander."

(I-I wanna go home...)

Kyle could do nothing but nodded while smiling with a cramp on his face.

"Hm? What's this. The street seems quite rowdy."

Matda stared at a large crowd in front of them.

"Whazzat? Huh? Isn't that Nobusada!? What the heck is he doing."

Kyle stood on his tiptoe and saw Nobusada standing with a swollen face and wounds all over his body.

BANGG

A blow launched by his male opponent made a clean hit and Nobusada flew backward.

It looked like it was over with this, but that didn't happen.

Nobusada sluggishly stood up. He took a battle ready-stance even while swaying like a revenant.

His opponent is the one who's making the onslaught, yet his face looks pale.

"O-oy. What happened here!?"

Kyle asked one of the people around.

"A, ah, when that Gian picked a quarrel with one of the waitresses in the diner, that young one got between them you see. So he turned to him and brought it outside. I mean, it's a D rank Fist Fighter against an F rank newbie right? At first we bet on how long he would last, but it's already been 20 minutes since the fight begun. That young one made a counter once, but Gian snapped and beat the live out of him afterward. Yet, the fight never ends cause that guy kept on standing up."

Kyle knew that he was tenacious, but not to this extent.

Kyle had a cold ran down his back.

But how is he this obstinate? His condition is such that he should have fainted a long time ago.

"Kyle, do you understand how Nobusada could keep standing up?"

Matda asked Kyle.

"I-I don't know. If it were me... I probably would have fainted right there."

"Look well. The surface of his body. Dim it might be, it's shining, is it not. That's him cladding himself with mana. He used it too when he fought with you y'know? He's also using heal on himself, though I'm not sure if he's aware of it himself."

What!?! Now that you mention it, it does look like he's shining, though very dimly. But I only realize this because I was told about it and this darkness. Yet this guy so easily saw through it, really now.

"However, he should be nearing his limit soon. Now then, you know what we have to do here don't you?"

The captain-commander said that while showing his white teeth off. I wonder why, I don't have a good feeling about this....



"Goddammit, what the hell're ya!? How'd you keep standing up!"

Gian is looking at Nobusada, who kept standing up no matter how many times he beat him up, like he's looking at a ghost.

It's gotten to the point that that there's no more part of Nobusada's upper half that hasn't been hit. Gian himself doesn't know how much he's hit him that his fists are drenched with blood. Normally, he should have gotten several broken bones and might have been terminally injured already.

Deep in the completely swollen face, only his eyes are gazing straight forward.

"YOUUUU! IT'S CAUSE YOU SAID SHIT LIKE DAMN BEAST! SO WHAT IF SHE'S AN ANIMALKIN! SHE WORKS TIRELESSLY TO GET YOU SOMETHING GOOD TO EAT! YOU THINK YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO ABUSE HER JUST CAUSE YOU WERE BORN AS A GENERAL HUMAN?! THAT'S WHY I WON'T GO DOWN! IF YOU DENY THOSE

GIRLS, I WILL DENY YOU WITH ALL MY BEING!"

The clamoring peanut gallery fell silent with Nobusada's words. Most of them are general human. Although few, there are some among them who look down on other races besides general human, like animalkin.

A roar resounds in that silence.

"FOOOOOOOLS!! WHADDYA THINK YOU'RE DOING JAMMING THE STREET YOU DAMN FOOOOOOOLS!!"

An earsplitting scolding voice loudly resounded.

"Geh, aren't that the War Fist!?"

One of the peanut gallery saw Matda and trembled.

That acted like a signal as the people around dispersed away.

The only people that remained there were Nobusada, Gian and his party, the bunny ear waitress, Minerva, Matda and Kyle.

"You there! Still wanna go at it?"

Matda turned at Gian and asked.

Gian clicked his tongue like he hadn't given up.

"Tch, like hell! Let's go you guys!"

Gian turned around and walked away. His party members followed him in a hurry.

"Dammit, disgusting. Always getting up even though I'm sure I broke his bones many times. The hell is that guy, shit shit shit."

Those groans reached Matda's ears.

And then he turned around toward Nobusada. Nobusada isn't moving at all as Kyle rushes up to him.

"Captain-commander. This guy fainted while standing up you know? Just how much of a sore loser this guy is..."

"I've been thinking since his mock battle with you, this lad is quite interesting. He might radically change for real if I drill him."

After saying that he put Nobusada on his shoulder like carrying a sack.

"Donur's daughter, err, Minerva-jouchan was it. Do you know where this guy's room is?"

"Y-yes, let me guide you there~"

Kyle was left alone as everyone went inside the inn. However, he had a slightly pitying look on his eyes.

"Man, that guy got himself marked down by someone troublesome. Those eyes, they were absolutely brimming with more thrill than when he's drilling me."

Kyle muttered and went inside the inn while sighing.

Chapter 22: Got a Master

I saw the inn's ceiling when I opened my eyes.

My whole body feels like it's been bathed in boiling water, my upper half feels very hot. And then dull pain ran through.

"Aah, I lost huh?"

It's painful to even turn around, but shining crescent moon was reflected on Nobusada's eyes as he looked outside. A considerable time must have passed since that uproar.

"I'm utterly weak...."

I wholeheartedly think so. I couldn't do anything at all. No wait, I did send him flying once. But that's it. I was beaten to a pulp afterward. I remember blurting out some passionate speech but my memory fades out after that. When I think about it again, I did that in front of so many people, that was so embarrassing I could disappear into a hole right now.

Still, I followed through my belief and protected the animal girl. I have no regret in that.

.....

<TLN: If you're reading this novel at any other site than Sousetsuka .com you might be reading an unedited, uncorrected version of the novel.>

I managed to protect her didn't I?

I got off the bed in a hurry and went down the stairs while walking along the wall.

Guaaa, ooooww.

That Gian guy really hit me hard.

I use heal on myself while walking. Come to think of it, I can use heal on myself without holding my hands up now. It might be a fluke, but it's really

helpful as I'm holding onto the wall right now.

When I got to the dining room, captain-commander-dono who was heartily drinking booze, Donur-san and Kyle-san who had a totally exhausted look on his face were there.

Why are these people here? Although I'm curious, I have to ask the thing that weighs on my mind first.

"Oo, young 'uns sure recover fast. Nobusada, so you have come to."

"Captain-commander-dono, is the waitress girl safe? Did they do something to her after I was knocked out?"

"Fuhahaha, worried about that girl more than yourself huh. Everything's fine, those bunch went somewhere afterward. That little girl was just nursing you until a bit ago. She's resting in her room now."

Pheew, goood. I was relieved and fell limp right there.

"Aah, good. I wouldn't know what to do if something happened to that girl after I went and picked a fight on my own."

"But still, I'm surprised you could get up after getting punched that bad. Nobusada, you can use holy magic don't you?"

I was shocked to hear that. However, my intuition tells me that his eyes are that of conviction. Guess I shouldn't try to hide it and spit it all out.

"Yes that's true. Is it weird that I can when I'm neither a monk or a priest?"

"Not at all. Although few in number, there's people with multiple classes, and people who have changed class can also use it. However, it won't be as effective compared to the professionals."

Phew, looks like worry was in naught. Looks like I can use it openly without worries.

"Nevertheless, it is still abnormal. You healed yourself while being clad in mana and without holding your hands after all."

Eeh!? I don't remember doing such a thing y'know. Wonder if that's why I could use heal without holding my hand earlier.

"What's this, judging by your expression, you did it unconsciously huh. Either way, your way of fighting was quite reckless. Be grateful to your parents for being born with a sturdy body."

I guess that would be Gune in this case? There's many things I need to reflect upon, but just having avoided the worst scenarios of, 『I died』, and 『Bunny ear girl got taken away』 is relieving enough.

And then, Donur-san who was staying silent suddenly stepped forward and stood before me.

His face looks scary but he's staring at me with a serious look. Come to think of it, this might be the first time I'm face to face with him.

"Nobusada. All in all, I cannot commend what you did. There had be another way to resolve it amicably."

Guh, I can't say anything to that. I couldn't think up any other way in that instant.

"However, I do not dislike that recklessness of yours. Rakog and his daughter are also grateful to you. He said, 『You can't find many who could say it like that, thank you for protecting my daughter』. ...So, what I'm trying to say here is....

Well done."

Afterward, he awkwardly brushed my head. Even while being curt, Donur-san is awkwardly expressing his gratitude. It's kinda embarrassing since I'm not a kid, but it doesn't feel bad.

"I-I just did what I wanted. I just didn't like his attitudes..."

Gu----

My belly rumbled when I was going to speak. This belly really can't read the mood.

My shame meter reached the max. Captain-commander and Donur-san look at each other and burst out laughing.

"Kufu, hahahaha, your body is honest. Wait a bit. I'll make you something. My treat."

Donur-san went into the kitchen while looking like he saw something interesting.

Then sizzling sounds of his cooking resounded. Oh crap, it smells good too.

Oh right, Kyle-san is slurping his booze with eyes that look like a dead fish's. Wonder what happened to him?

Is it because he kept those two company. Mine is fruit juice since I'm injured and a non-drinker though.

Let's leave him alone for now. I can't find a word to speak to him.

"Right, Nobusada. Did you have anybody teach you martial arts?"

The captain-commander suddenly changed the topic.

"No, I'm self-taught. I'm just mimicking stuff I saw."

Yup, it's completely self-taught. My swordsmanship is kendo imitation, and the hand-to-hand combat is an extended version of playing around between classes. When I think about it again, that was completely reckless of me.

"I see, I see. Nobusada, would you like to come under my apprenticeship?"

What!? This is abrupt. However, it's just what I asked for. From the rumor I

heard, captain-commander is one of the five strongest people in this country. There will be no greater experience than having someone like that train me. But, why did I get invited I wonder? There must a mountain of people who want to learn under captain-commander. I lost the fight in the end, and didn't have anything good to show did I?

"You look baffled. You might have not won, but you did not lose either. If we go by result, it's a draw by prolonged match."

Really. I thought it was my total lost. Well, that's not much better though.

"If there's one thing that caught my attention, it's your unyielding spirit. That's the one thing youth these days lack and the most indispensable thing to become my pupil. Most of my successful pupils are all people who are bad at giving up."

I'm not sure how to feel about that. I didn't give up for the sake of animal girls... It's directly connected to my desire isn't it.

"Also, I have never seen your type before. Most will not engage in hand-to-hand combat to that degree when they can use magic. How will someone as unusual as that grow up. I'm curious about that. Now then, what will you do?"

A mere curiosity. Even so, I will grab this chance. I have been made

completely aware of my lack of power and techniques. And if he's going to teach me that, it must be my good luck.

"Please. I can't protect anything if I stay like this. Please make me your disciple, master!"

"Master huh. It has been awhile since someone called me that. Come to think of it, you might resemble my first pupil somewhat."

"Are you done? It's better when it's freshly made."

Donur-san has brought the food before I knew it.

A dish in a big plate raising warm steam.... I-isn't this Paella!? Rice, is it rice!?

"Do-Dododo-Donur-san. Is this rice!?"

"O-ou. I managed to get a few. We don't have a lot since it's a rare drop in the dungeon, so it's not enough to be served in the store. Eat up without reserve."

On top of the seasoned rice, there's prawns, chicken meat, paprika, onion, and colored cut parsley. Uwaaah, it's only been a few days, yet it feels very nostalgic, rice.

I pick up the spoon and put it into my mouth deliriously.

S-so good. Oh crap, it's so good I'm tearing up. This, this is it. The sweetness and seasoning that get stronger the more you chew, and the stock that spreads out in your mouth. He said this was a rare drop in the dungeon huh. I'll hunt it, absolutely. For the sake of my eating habits! Another thing that necessitate me to get stronger.

The prawns are flavored to the tail as I crunch them whole. There should be no sea in this inland area, wonder where he got this?

The chicken meat has chewy texture to it, similar to game fowl, but this is nice too. The harmony with the soft rice is unbeatable.

The paella that was on a large plate went into my belly in about ten minutes.

Everyone around me looks dumbfounded to see my eating pace.

"Thank you for the meal. That was totally great."

A laughter resounded.

"Hahaha, looks like there's no need to worry about your condition if you can eat that much. Just sleep well. Tomorrow... well, nothing can be done about the swelling, so head to the western gate station the day after tomorrow. You will find me or Kyle there, we will talk about your training afterward."

"Yes!"

Just as master suggested, let's go back to my room and have some rest. Or rather, I'm so full my eyelids won't hold on anymore. I think I saw Kyle with vacant eyes, but I left the dining room while leaving a prayer for him to find peace in the next world.

Chapter 23: 24-Hour Lifesaving Inn

Chirp chirp chirp

A bird that looks like a sparrow is chirping near the window.

I'm awake but my eyelids won't open well. Huuh? What happened to me?

Mirrors are expensive so of course there's none of that here in a room for adventurers. No choice, I try to move my aching body... I can't!?

Huuh? I'm wide awake but I can't move my limbs at all like they've been bound....

I managed to somehow move my head and looked below to see that I had been tied in a rope.

How did it come to this? I went straight to bed after feasting on Donur-san's memorable Paella and I don't remember anything at all afterward.

Knock knock knock

Someone knocked on the door.

And then click, it opened.

"Huh? Are you awake now, Nobu-san~"

Minerva-chan came carrying a tray.

"fea I fuf fof uf "

(Yea, I just got up)

I was aghast when I tried to talk. Just what happened to me really.

"Ah, you shouldn't force yourself to talk~ It's just as Matda-san said, you've really swelled up~"

She fiddled with something on the tray while saying that. Master said that? Which means my face is so swollen I can't speak well right now. For it to be this difficult, does it mean it's really swollen so much?

As much as an**nman?

<TLN: Anpanman.>

"I was told that since it was Nobu-san, he might force himself to move around, so I took it upon myself to tie you up in the bed~"

She's saying that with all smiles... So that was why I couldn't move at all.

Then Minerva-chan put some gel-like substance on tree bark-like stuff. And then she put them on my face.

.....

It stiiiiiiiiinks! Several of these things that are orders of magnitude stinkier than a poultice are pasted on my whole face.

"These have been applied with salve made from Alue leaves~. The swelling should be gone by tomorrow if we use this many~."

This stuff is folk remedies that don't rely on magic and are so effective guards and adventurers carry it around with them. Apparently this smell will disappear when it loses its effect. And the reason why I'm this swollen is a backlash of forcefully overlapping heals. It varies by people, but apparently Master said that the backlash was this severe in my case since I overlapped the heal after getting hit that bad. And he even saw through my personality and made sure that I

wouldn't be able to move.... Kuuh, I feel like Son Goku who got toyed with in the palm of Buddha.

No choice, let's spend today resting.

"Fhanf fou, mifefa-fhan."

(Thank you, Minerva-chan.)

"Yes, well then, please rest well okay~"

After finishing putting the poultice-like stuff, Minerva-chan left in a hurry.

Still, it's been a few days since I came to this world. It really was like surging waves.

I was thrown into a forest, met beauty sisters, got attacked by a wild boar, had a mock battle with Kyle, met a Goddess and then got beaten to a pulp. It's been really stormy when you lay it all down like this.

I also met kind and reliable people.

Mitama and Futsuno-san. Eleanor-san, Master, and Kyle. Minerva-chan, Donur-san, and Bell-san. Boss-san, Storm-san and Sefi-san.

Oh there's also the muscled bikini pants and stuff, oh right, the noGoddess too.

I think... I'm glad... to have come to this... city....

...*chuckle*...

...Stop it, nee-san...

Wha?

What?

"Ufufu, he really looks cute when he's sleeping like this. It's nice when he looks gallant, but this kind is nice too."

"...He's fast asleep, you shouldn't tease him."

"Geez, Mitama you're so serious. You can do many stuff on this defenseless Nobu-kun...."

At that time, my eyes met Futsuno-san's who was peering.

"A-araa, yer' awake? Morning, Nobu-kun."

"W-w-w-what are you doing Futsuno-san."

"Y'know, we heard you got into a fight. After hearing some others rumors, we decided we might as well come to visit."

"...We heard from Storm. And that you were in this inn too. You're as rash as always, Nobu."

Mitama said that a bit critically.

Un, I feel sorry to have worried them.

"But you were really cool weren't you. Err, it was like, 『YOUUUU! IT'S CAUSE YOU SAID SHIT LIKE DAMN BEAST! SO WHAT IF SHE'S AN ANIMALKIN! SHE WORKS TIRELESSLY TO GET YOU SOMETHING GOOD TO EAT! YOU THINK YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO ABUSE HER JUST CAUSE YOU WERE BORN AS A GENERAL HUMAN?! THAT'S WHY I WON'T GO DOWN! IF YOU DENY THOSE GIRLS, I WILL DENY YOU WITH ALL MY BEING!』, wasn't it."

Uwaa, how did they know about that too. Hearing that from someone's else mouth really makes it sound embarrassing and itching.

"howdidyouknowaboutthat?"

"Well, there were a lot of witnesses and it got quite lively 'rite? And many people have been talking about it you know. Was quite the hot topic in the diner earlier too."

Nuoooo, it's gotten so big. I didn't expect this.

"...You shouldn't be rash. You were like that with the wild boar too, Nobu, you drove your body too hard."

Mitama had a really worried expression as she said that. We haven't known each other that long, yet she's this worried about me, it makes me happy.

"Don't worry. I'll get stronger now that I've become a pupil of the 【War Fist】. Next time will be different."

The two looked shocked when they heard me.

Eh? Did I say something bad?

"W-war Fist!? That War Fist, the so-called Ultimate Weapon of Gramada? No-Nobu-kun... You shouldn't be so quick to jump to your death."

"...You went and did something rash right after we told you not to, geez."

"Eh? Eh? What's going on?"

"Don't tell me, you went and became his pupil without any knowledge?"

"Yup."

"Achaa~, that's right. Nobu-kun just arrived recently. No wonder you don't

know."

According to Futsuno-san. Apparently there were countless people who went under Master's tutelage but only a few that managed to safely graduate. But, those few people went on to assume important positions like a general that protect an entire country or a high ranking adventurer.

However, the training was something those with half-assed resolution could not endure and numerous youngsters were left dejected.

Wow, Futsuno-san is really well informed.

"And that's that. Like we said Nobu-kun, you've gone and become a pupil of someone outrageous."

"...Nobu, don't die."

No no no, I won't die. Please don't kill me off, Mitama.

"I-it's alright. I'm not going to die just like that...."

Uu, now I'm feeling the nature's call after hearing that story. I can't move

because of this rope though.

"Fu-Futsuno-san. Sorry, but could you maybe untie this rope. I'd like to go to the toilet for a bit."

And the thing I said this time became a regret I carried until death.

The moment I said that. Futsuno-san grinned and smiled. There's no doubt, that's her face when she's thinking of something bad!

"Ufufufufufufu. Futsuno onee-san gotta observe this real closely. Now then, Nobu-kun, let onee-san take care of you."

She had an earthenware of some kind on her hand. Where'd she get that from!? The shape looks... like... an... urinal.

No way!? I call for help from Mitama while having the worst premonition in my chest.

"Mi-Mitama. I beg of you, please untie me!"

"...Nn."

Even though Mitama answered my call and tried to untie the rope, it doesn't look like it's getting unfastened at all, just what kind of knot is it. Futsuno is fast approaching my lower half in the meantime.

She turns over the blanket with a cheerful look on her face and extends her arm toward my lower half.

"It'll be over in a jiffy if you stay still, don't struggle okay. Ufufu, it's my second time meeting Nobu-kun's stuff now."

No no no, sure she did saw it once, but even then, I don't know about letting a young girl to take care of that.

Mitama! Please untie me asap! No wait, just stop Futsuno-san pleaseeeeeee.

Futsuno-san's hands hang on my trousers.

Sto...wai...aa...where are you touching!??

The chilly earthenware got between my groins.

"No need to endure it anymore. Leave it to onee-san. Now, let it all out nice and easy."

<TLN: If you're reading this novel at any other site than Sousetsuka .com you might be reading an unedited, uncorrected version of the novel.>

Aaa-----.

Uuu, I can't be a groom anymore, sniff.

In the end, Mitama couldn't make it in time and nature's call prevailed. This was the first time a woman took care of my lower half since I had never been hospitalized before. I feel like I've lost various things.

Mitama was downhearted for not making it in time, Futsuno-san looked like she had accomplished something.

The contrasting two went home after they were done with their business.

It was already evening by the time it was over. It's gotten dark.

The rope has been unfastened and I'm free to move my body now.

I sit on the bed, roll up my shirt and see bruises here and there.

I was hit so many times that I got backlash from using heal, just how badly was I beaten anyway.

In fact, I don't really remember the stuff after I was blown away. Really, I'm surprised I survived.

Knock

I heard a reserved sounding knock from the door.

"It's open, you can come in."

"P-please excuse me."

The one who opened the door and entered was the bunny ear girl from

before. Now that I think about it, I don't know her name.

Name: Fou - Gender: Female - Age: 10 - Race: Animal Folk - Moon Rabbitkin

Class: Waitress Lv7 - State: Nervous

Title: None

【Skill】

Dagger Lv1 - Housework Lv2 - Serving Lv2 - Good Luck Lv 2 - Life Magic

Three Size - B: 61 W: 47 H: 62

Ah, yup. Please cut off the three size already. Don't you have on/off function, Discerning Magic Eye.

Fou-chan huh. She's younger than I thought. Still, she has Good Luck huh. I sure would like one.

She looks like a striking little girl with pink hair and ears. She may look feeble, yet she's working as a waitress among those rowdy bunch, she's incredible.

She's shaking and looks really nervous though.

She trotted and came next to me.

"U-um, um, thank you very much for saving me yesterday. Err, you were hit really bad, are you okay?"

"I just did what I wanted, you really don't have to worry about it. See, I look fine right. I was so uncool getting all beat up thought."

I swung my right arm and joked about it. I'm still feeling a bit sore, but I've gotta do this much lip service at least.

"Umm, my name is Fou. What you said back then was really cool. This is, umm, my thanks."

And then she stood on tiptoe and kissed my cheek very fleetingly.

"Minerva-chan said that men would be happy if I did that.... I'll come back later with something to eat, please rest well okay."

The girl went straight out of the room with a red face. Is this what they call a startled hare. <TLN: Adverb that means lightning speed.>

But really, what are you teaching her, Minerva-chan... What a precocious kid she is.

Even while feeling slightly embarrassed, I felt a bit proud that I was able to protect this daily life.

Chapter 24: Nobusada's Path of Training ①

『Solomon's Pavilion』's courtyard, early morning.

Huff, puff, haa, haa.

I checked my body by stretching. All those bruises were almost gone, leaving only slight soreness. That Alue leaf ointment sure was amazing.

I'm also surprised at this body's recuperative power. If I were still in the old man's body, I wouldn't want to even move a finger.

But instead, I'm quite eager to move my body. I do practice-swing using my iron sword behind the inn.

Oh right, I got called with some horrible nicknames, like 『Captain Big Win』, 『Mister Undead』 and stuff, they won't stick won't they? Please don't, no seriously. Also, that 『Captain Big Win』, wonder if there was someone who won big on the bet....

I did practice swing for one hour while shaking off my worldly thoughts. That was some good sweat.

And then I care for the sword after wiping off my sweat. I got into a brawl before I could maintain it after returning from the dungeon. Come to think of it, the iron ant gauntlet is also slightly dented. It's that Gian guy's fault.

Boss-san said that it wouldn't get much scratch in the beginner dungeon, which means that that guy must be quite skilled. I think the gap in our experiences is bigger than skills and stuff. His fighting style feels more specialized in interpersonal battle.

I won't lose next time... It's frustrating. It all just come to me now.

I'll set my first Class to Fist Fighter for now. I only noticed now that it would make it easier to obtain martial art related skill.

Alright, let's have some grub and head to the station. Master didn't say the time, but I probably should get there early.

And then, at the western gate station.

The working guards seem busy. Looking outside, I can't find Kyle and Master. Wonder if they're inside the station?

"Good morning. My name is Nobusada, are Kyle-san or Captain-Commander Matda here?"

I found Kyle with vacant eyes when I called inside the station.

"...Oh, s'that you Nobusada. Urp, I feel sick. Sorry bout this, I had to accompany Captain-Commander drinking the day before yesterday and haven't been feeling well ever since."

That time huh. I recall Kyle and his dead eyes. How do I put this, I feel like this guy is destined to bear that fate on his shoulders. Namu.

"You sure have it rough. Here, you can have this."

I took an apple from rucksack and tossed it to Kyle.

The apple drew an arc in the air and Kyle caught it.

"Cheers. Yup, the sourness's just right. That sorta cleared my head. Oh right, the Captain-Commander is visiting lord-sama's mansion, he ain't here right now. He said to wait at his house. Here's the map."

Kyle gave a map with his handwritings. It's pretty detailed. This guy has a skillful side too huh, you can't sell him short.

"Thanks, I'll be heading there then."

"Ou, I'm your senior (?) for once, dontcha forget your respect!"

"I'll give you my respect if you can win in our next match. So we're equal right now."

"Kah, you sure can talk big. Well fine. I'm getting special training from Captain-Commander too. I ain't not gonna lose next time."

"Looking forward to it. Well then."

"Ou"

Now then, let's get to the mansion by looking at the map. But what am I gonna do at the mansion when Master isn't there?

<TLN: If you're reading this novel at any other site than Sousetsuka .com you might be reading an unedited, uncorrected version of the novel.>

There's a mansion with a spacious yard at the place marked on the map. It's bigger than the Solomon's Pavilion. The yard is especially worth mentioning. There's 20 wooden training dummies. They look well used from afar.

Since there's no intercom or such, I cross over the yard.

I arrived at the front door without meeting anyone. Is there anyone home?

I knock the door while calling.

"Excuse me. Is there anyone inside?"

After knocking a while, I could hear someone running inside.

"Yes, who is it?"

"Huh? Eleanor-san."

"Oh my, Nobusada-san. What's the matter? Do you have a business at our house?"

"Um, Master told Kyle-san to tell me to come here...."

"Master? Could it be, Nobusada is my father's new pupil?"

"Yes, I think that's right. Wait, he didn't tell Eleanor-san about this?"

"My father told me, 『My new pupil is coming today. You're off today right, teach him kata until I'm back』. Geez, he should have said that it was Nobusada."

Oh!? Eleanor-san's gonna instruct me! Got a feeling that Kyle would press me hard if he heard this.

"I'm sure Master had no idea that we knew each other. I may be inexperienced, but please guide me well."

"Yes, well then, please wait here for a bit while I change."

A few minutes later, Eleanor-san in training clothes is standing in front of me.

She has ponytail like the usual, but she's not putting her glasses on like when she's on the receptionist desk. Her all black training clothes suppress her usual coolness and kinda makes her look a bit rough.

"Well then, I will explain about Kata. That is, attack form, guard form, and counter form. Three in total. The rest are kumite (paired kata) that you have to think up during real combat, father will teach you things other than that."

Attack, defense and counter huh. Indeed, they're the basic of the basic. I don't really know though!

"In other words, I have to adapt them myself in real combat?"

"That's right. I think Nobusada can adapt these three forms with your weapon choice, one-handed sword too. In fact, father's pupils all have their own varying weapons."

"I see."

"Then I will be showing a demonstration of kata now, please observe it well."

I stare hard at Eleanor-san. Activating Discerning Magic Eyes to memorize all the steps. I noticed when I watched Kagura-san back then, activating the Discerning Magic Eyes would analyze and memorize the movements. My body will then move in the exact way by tracing them. This thing is useful not just for Appraisal but also other things I'm still not sure about.

Eleanor-san performs the demonstration like she's dancing. 【War Princess】 title isn't just for show. Everything like kata transition and such look like they're fluently connected. Enough to inadvertently fascinate me.

"Fufu, what's wrong? Your mouth is hanging open, you know."

Ha, looks like I showed her my stupid face because I got too into it. Not good, gotta pull myself together. I'm here to train.

"Now then, let's try moving your body like I showed you."

"Yes."

Move flowingly like Eleanor-san... not, I move awkwardly chunk by chunk.

Once I can do this fluently to a degree, the next step is polishing kumite. Afterward, it's kumite, kumite, kumite. Nothing but single minded kumite. And then, once you've sublimated them to your own fighting style, that's when you've mastered the school. This school doesn't even have a name in the first

place as it's just a fist art Master has refined in battlefields. All the pupils differ in their fighting styles. I also have to refine these kata and create my own exclusive fighting style.

I repeat the kata movement while recalling Eleanor-san's steps. I trace it back while taking the difference in body build into account. By the way, Eleanor-san is about 15cm taller than me right now. Hey Gune, just when is my third growth period anyway. Oops, focus focus.

After about one hour, I think my form has gotten reasonably good. Eleanor-san has been coaching me all the while.

"You've gotten quite better. I did not think that Nobusada-san would get it this quick. Now it's a good time, let's have a break ."

"Yes, phew. That was tiring."

"Fufu, you won't get tired from this much once you've gotten used to it. Nobusada-san is still in your growth period, I'm sure it'll progress well."

"Thank you very much."

Phew, contrary to me who's all sweaty, Eleanor-san is looking completely fine. Wonder how long did it take for her to get this far?

I take out some mango from the rucksack and ask her while peeling the skin.

"Eleanor-san, how old were you when you started the training? Ah, please have this."

Eleanor-san smiles while receiving the peeled mango.

"Yes well. I was already training with my father and mother when I was aware of things around me. Ah, this is nice and sweet. I was active as an adventurer for a little while and stood in battlefields with my father before I took employment in the guild."

So she got the War Princess title from then. Even so, already training when she gained awareness huh... No wonder she's strong.

"After that, father worked his pupils really hard. There were many people who applied for apprenticeship, but only a few could call themselves his pupils. There were many who fell out on the way. Presently, I think he's only giving crash courses to Kyle-san sometimes, at most. It really had been quite a while before Nobusada-san's apprenticeship."

Eleanor-san told me many things.

Presently, there are nine people who can truly call themselves Master's pupils. They are people whom Master personally gave approval for their mastery. Three of them are working as generals, commanding officers or such in each countries. Four are making splashes as adventurers, and everyone is rank A, amazing. One is employed by a noble somewhere. And the last one is missing in action. That's because the person in question is a vagabond and tends to wander everywhere without getting in touch.

How do I put this, it feels like they all have strong individuality.

Amusingly enough, among the nine pupils, only one is using fist art. Which proves just how flexible these kata are huh... It's not cause the pupils are all weirdo, is it?

"By the way, did Eleanor-san not receive the full mastership?"

"Yes, I retired as an adventurer and took up clerical work when my mother passed away. I do work out like this once in a while, but it's nothing compared to my heyday. Now then, let's resume the training."

"Yes!"

Alright, let's put some spirit into it and continue!

Chapter 25: Nobusada's Path of Training ②

Putting my spirit into it and resume the training... this is Nobusada who should have done that.

Presently, I've been tied on a wooden training dummy. My upper half is tightly binded you see. How'd it come to this?

"Well then, Nobusada-san. I will be throwing my fists now, please watch them carefully without blinking okay."

That's what she says. My upper half is tied because I might get hit by her fist if I move carelessly.

First, a training to strengthen kinetic vision? done by apparently watching Eleanor-san's fists, getting used to their speed and removing my fear.

I'm already like a carp on a chopping board. Ready to be cooked in any way.

Oops, looks like Eleanor-san is ready while I was thinking that.

"Now then, here I go."

With that, fwoosh, something passed right beside my face.

Eeeee, I couldn't see it at all. I was able to see Gian's fists, even only a little, but her speed is pretty much in a whole different dimension.

FWOOSH

FWOOSH

Fists passed the sides of my face with each sounds of wind getting cut. And I don't think it's just my imagination. It's gradually getting closer to my face, her fist that is! I don't feel any fear. It's probably because there's no killing intent, and maybe also because I just got punched senselessly the day before yesterday.

After a bit while. Discerning Magic Eye-sama could finally, slightly, catch her fist.

Or to be more correct, I didn't only watch her fist, but her entire body, and then I grasped the timing of her fists by observing the flow of its movements. Staring hard at the sexy Eleanor-san whose training clothes stick to her sweaty body is my ulterior motive though!!

"You've gotten used to this speed already? You have really good eyes. I thought it would take longer. Then maybe I should hasten the pace a bit."

Mumumu, no wait, it was just a tiny little bit... Or rather, Eleanor-san can still

go faster? But she's already faster than Gian.

"B-by the way, how much you're holding back right now?"

"Let me see. I think it's around 30% now."

W-whaaaaat! She hasn't even shown 1/3 of her power. It just hits me again how amazing she is.

Eleanor-san was done preparing while I was thinking that.

BWOOSH

A wind cutting sound that was more intense than earlier passed my face.

Yup, I don't see anything at all. Not her fist nor her body. I'm scared. The shockwave-like thing is rattling my cheeks.

I'm trying to learn even a bit while desperately fighting the urge to close my eyes. I'm almost losing to the fear, but I motivate myself by convincing myself that this is a training.

And then, I noticed one thing.

Eleanor-san's face is getting to look amorous!

Her cheeks look slightly flush. Her usual cool face turned into an enraptured expression of a woman.

Wonder why my instinct is sounding alarm for danger. Have a dangerous been inadvertently opened inside Eleanor-san?

BWOOM

HIYII!

The speed has obviously gotten faster! And the gap is paper-thin now.

"Fufu, ufufufu."

Wait a minute Eleanor-san, did you lick your lips just now? I don't taste that good you know.

Hyowaaaa, the wind pressure is starting to create marks on my face like it's grazing me? Or rather, isn't it really grazing me?

I stare with desperate eyes at Eleanor-san who's gradually raising her speed.

The special training continues on as I stay immobile cause carelessly moving might get me hit. I mean, a fist comes whenever I try to make a sound.

In the end, this went on until Eleanor-san lost her breath. My face is full of welt-like red lesions.

"I-I'm sorry, Nobusada-san. I got too much into it...."

"No no, this much is nothing. Sorry, but could you untie me for now?"

"Y-yes, of course."

I ran to the toilet at once after getting liberated. I'll take this secret of almost peeing myself in front of Eleanor-san to my grave. It was just that scary.

When I went back to Eleanor-san while sighing in relief, I heard her murmur.

"Haa, I did it again.... Just why can't I hold back when I'm focusing too much. What should I do if Nobusada-san won't come back after this. And father was happy to have a new pupil in a while too...."

Muu, looks like this isn't the first time this happened. It's true that my mind almost broke for a minute there, but I can still go at it! A man has to shut up and endure. I almost shouted out loud though!

"Eleanor-san, thank you for waiting. Now, shall we continue then?"

"Nobusada-san, are you alright? If you don't feel like it now or..."

"I'm completely fine. I can use Heal to quickly cure a little bit of wound, so let's keep at it."

"Y-yes... Since the schedule today is only throughout the morning, let's have kumite until the time is up. Please don't hold back as I won't counter. Maybe, I'll even give you a reward if you can get a hit on me."

What!? I'm all fired up now. I'm weak with reward and stuff, you see.

We take a stance and face each other.

I send out a straight right jab from attack form with all my might. Of course, she easily parried it since there was no feint or anything.

The fact that she won't get any damage from me no matter what I do is relieving in a way. I can go at this with all my might without worrying Eleanor-san getting injured.

I revise my movements little by little by mimicking Eleanor-san's movements earlier. Connected flowing attack instead of one-off shots. Considering my current physique and build, it's probably impossible to end this match in one hit. Then it's a battle of move number. Therefore, Eleanor-san's movements make for a really good reference.

Perhaps Master entrusted the initial training to Eleanor-san for this reason.

<TLN: If you're reading this novel at any other site than Sousetsuka .com you might be reading an unedited, uncorrected version of the novel.>

We're in the sixth match now with a break every 10 minutes. This is probably the last considering the time. Even now, I only touched Eleanor-san when she parried me. I still haven't get a hit on her.

I'd like to surprise her a bit at least. Thus, I'm thinking of trying various moves this time.

Imitating boxing jab, one two to smash. Crouching leg sweep continuing to jumping uppercut.

My throwing attempts were in vain as I couldn't even catch her.

Uhahaha, this match is choke full of amateur's shallow thinking. It's rather refreshing that all of them failed.

In that case, I'll get close to her to the limit.

Eleanor-san is keeping her guard but she's still not moving. Right before I get next to her I draw my hands back.

CLAAAAAP

A loud sound resounded from my hands in front of Eleanor-san. It's the so called Nekodamashi. Even Eleanor-san didn't expect this, her body stiffened.

And just right when I'm going all in to try to catch her clothes' neckline.

Tettere~♪ Acquired Grappling Lv1

Surprised by the sudden noGoddess's announcement which had been absent until now, I inadvertently tripped my leg. And I ended up making a dive onto Eleanor-san.

Eleanor-san who didn't anticipate the Nekodamashi and my dive at all seemed to be taken off guard too and fell.

Ow ow ow, I failed. And it was my chance too.

monyun

Monyun? There's something soft on my right hand...

My eyes matched Eleanor-san's when I opened them. The smallish yet nice sensation on my right hand is....

"KYAAAAAAAAAAAA"

BOOOOOOOOOM

"AMIBA"

My view was immediately filled with a fist before I blacked out.

"U-uaa"

I was sleeping on sofa when I came to. Feels like I've been fainting a lot lately.

"Nobusada-san, you've come to!? I'm sorry, I forgot to hold back back then...."

"No no, I'm fine(?) somehow. I should ask for your forgiveness too."

Eleanor-san blushed, seemingly recalling it. I smile wryly while using Heal on my aching face.

I've got to enjoy an unexpected reward. The soft sensation still lingers in my hand even now, thank you for the feast!

Chapter 26: Hello Baby

Despite the knock-out event, my first training day ended safely.

I've got to work hard to earn my keep from here on. After all, I didn't work at all the whole yesterday.

That said, going straight to dungeon now is tough. Yup, I acted tough back then, but that last hit was quite something.

Let's look for an easy to clear quest here. I also have to work on the quests for the sake of keeping the discounts on Solomon Pavilion.

Would be nice if there were indoor or gathering quests. I can already see the bottom of the rucksack where I put the fruits. It'd be perfect if I also got to collect emergency provisions while doing the quest.

I go to the guild board to look for quests, there's not a lot of adventurers in the guild at this time of the day.

Well, I look over the quest board while hoping that there's something good left.

Let me see... Warehouse Night Guard, Walking the Dog, Catching Panty Thief... Nothing good.

Oh, there's more below.

《 Medical Herb Gathering 》

Requesting for collection of herbs for potion making. Hira Grass, Gedo Grass and *etc.*

Accepting by a bundle of ten. Prioritizing people who can handle the work carefully.

Reward: Can change depending on the state of the material

Client: Alchemy Store 『Shut-in Lamia』 Shopkeeper

※ Please bring the requested item to the client directly and ask for the completion mark.

It's a quest from Sefi-san. Or rather, wouldn't everyone not take this quest with this reward? This is way too obscure.

Wonder if there's any good place to collect herbs nearby. I should go ask the receptionist.

"Excuse me, I'd like to take this quest."

"Umu, this calls for quest processing dearuna. Wait a moment dearu."

Huh? Why's Ranba-san here?

"Huh? Ranba-san, weren't you in charge of the purchasing counter?"

"Umu, I take care of stuff here too when I'm free or during the shift dearu. Hou, herb gathering dearuka. Lots of plain jobs like this get neglected, this really helps dearuna."

"Do you know a good place to gather herbs around here?"

"Right dearuna. The area around the forest about 30 minutes away from the north gate is a good one for that dearu. However, we've confirmed the existence of goblins and such there, be sure to take caution."

I see, I see. I'm not sure how long it'd take to gather the herbs, but I should be able to get back before sundown if I can do that in 2-3 hours.

"Thank you for the info. I'll be going then."

"Umu, get it together dearuna."

I bought two bread from a bakery near the guild and a spit-roast as a side dish. It's bad manners, but I hurry to the forest while chewing the bread.

I would have ridden on a horse carriage or something if this were a fantasy or RPG, but reality is a harsh mistress. Even the maintenance cost for that alone would be awful. Well, I probably won't have to travel a long distance for the time being anyway, gotta work my legs!

After walking while skipping on the highway a bit, I arrived at a thick woods. This is probably the place.

I'll look for the herbs with Discerning Magic Eyes from the entrance. I should equip the Iron Ant Gauntlet just in case. Now that I've learned Grappling skill and all, I'll test the skill if anything happens.

I dug out grasses that grew all over the places thoroughly to their root, packed them in a bundle with cloth and tossed them into my rucksack.

There were more variety besides Hiru Grass and Gedo Grass.

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Maji Grass

Ingredient for magic potion. It looks similar to Hira Grass but its leaf vein is tinged red. It has a slight magic recovery effect by biting it even before getting processed. However, it's really bitter.

Para Grass

Herb that can recover paralyze. It has almost no effect if it hasn't been processed through a standard procedure, be aware. Really spicy chewed.

I shove them down the rucksack while I'm at it. The gathering is going nicely. I should leave some instead of rooting them all. I don't know the ecosystem here, but taking them all off would mess the clusters.

I've gathered quite a lot of herbs, but I don't see many fruits around. That forest might really be special. There were only wild apples and pears here. Well, I made sure to take them all though! Ah, found walnuts.

I've gone deep into the forest long after proceeding through the entrance. It's been an hour since I started gathering (at least that's what my biological clock tells me), should be about time to turn back here.

Gigigi, gyaggya

Right when I was thinking of going back, I heard rasping voices. I've heard this one before.

Peeking while holding my breath, I saw three goblins encircling several Moss Balls.

As I was wondering what they were doing, one goblin caught a Moss Ball and bit on it.

Eeeh!? Those guys feed on Moss Balls?

Those Moss Balls do look plant-like, but I never thought that they were edible. The remaining goblins are also chewing on the Moss Balls.

Now then, what to do. My physical condition has gotten quite better compared to after the training. Goblins are a permanent subjugation target since they will multiply if left alone. Only five mani a goblin though...

Conclusion, let's destroy them all with magic and earn some small change! I observe the situation while readying the Iron Ant Gauntlet.

Might as well use this chance to innovate a magic by imagining it. The magic I will use is Wind Arrow. What I'm imagining is the man's romance, drill! In my mind, drill has to be the 『Variable War Machine Gettda Robo』 number II. Moving underground, drilling with a drill on its groin, it was an unprecedented show. Made the child me's groin went limp unconsciously y'know. Oops, not good, got derailed.

It just needs to be a few inch big. The important thing here is the penetrative power. Aim for the goblin's heads.

Direction green! Angle green! Fire three bullets!

Solidify all the image, shaping it into magic.

"Drill Arrow!"

CHUIIIIIIIIN

Three drills flew toward the goblins while sounding like a dentist's apparatus. The plus point of Wind Arrow is that it's practically silent, and this makes it very obvious. Gotta do some trial and errors with this stuff.

And I feel like I've lost a lot of MP. Gonna check later since the battle has started now.

BISHUN!

Among three drill arrows, one hit right on a goblin's head, one hit another goblin's tip of shoulder, and the last one pierced the ground. Did the Gettada II image I had earlier give an adverse effect?

In any case, my shooting control is still lacking! It's necessary to train this point too.

Right after I confirmed that I missed, I quickly readied myself and charged out.

They're still in confusion from the shooting, I'm gonna take control of the situation at once.

I sprang out toward the injured goblin to finish it. Referencing Eleanor-san's movement, I make a straight line with my pivot leg and throw a straight right while increasing the momentum instead of killing it. The injured goblin got blown away to a tree behind without having the chance to turn around.

Ever since I learned Grappling skill, my movement has become the smoothest it's ever been. Moving like I want better than before.

CHINK

The last goblin drew its rusted sword and got on guard at me. Since its companies have been done in, it's breathing roughly.

In contrary, I've never been this calm before. At the very least, it doesn't feel as frightening as Eleanor-san from that time. That was scary. It really really was.

Giiii

The goblin seems like it couldn't endure any longer, it's coming here while slashing its sword around. I can see, I can see it, I can see its movements! After watching how people stronger than me like Gian and Eleanor-san move in a row, the goblins look really slow to me.

Matching its sword's movement, with Counter Kata/Form, I put a counter... I can't! Guess it's only natural, I've been taught Kata but not the way to use it well. There's no way I can do it in just a day.

While evading the attacks, I throw a left jab. Of course, it's just an imitation, but since my center of gravity is stable due to the Kata, it's shaping up nicely.

My gauntlet hits the goblin's face. I'm testing how well I can move by

throwing one two, one two jabs while judging the distance.

The poor goblin has turned into nothing but a moving sandbag, reminding me of me from the other day. I'm not keen of tormenting it any further, so I finish this up with a right straight with all my weight behind right when the goblin stops moving.

Tereretettette~♪ Fist Fighter, Otherworlder leveled up.

Geez, unlike with a sword, fighting with my fists, the sensation of reaping life with my own hands feels more real. Come to think of it, I often saw main characters feeling bad for killing humanoid monsters in light novels, but I'm not feeling that. It was already like this when I saved Futsuno-san and Mitama back then, now that I think about it.

I'm not sure if this also applies to people, but I'd better prepare myself for when it happens. I saw quests to arrest bandits and people on the quest board after all. I won't be surprised if things take turn for the worse unexpectedly.

Phew, let's stop worrying too much now. This isn't inside a dungeon, I've got to collect the subjugation proof and Soul Stones.

After I've finished collecting goblins' right ears and Soul Stones, something moves on the edge of my view.

Mu, there's survivors?

Looking closer, there's a surviving Moss Ball behind the goblin that died first. However, it's not moving at all from where it is.

It's twice the size of all Moss Balls I've seen so far, trembling staggeringly. Eventually, it stopped trembling and then deflated like a balloon.

Curious, I got closer and found a golf ball-sized Moss Ball with good luster.

Molting? Division? Childbirth??

And then, it approaches me while leaping like, 'poyon poyon'. Is it attacking!?

I readied myself in a hurry, but the Moss Ball isn't attacking. Or rather, it's jumping around me like, 'poyon poyon'?

Is this something like an imprinting... This raw thing has no eyes though.

I lean over and try to put the Moss Ball on my palm. The Moss Ball obediently got on my palm and jumped about. Oh, here I am thinking it looks a bit cute.

"Wanna come with me? Or maybe not?"

I tried talking to the Moss Ball in a jest. What am I doing, like Moss Balls can talk.

Tettere~♪ Moss Ball showed sentiment of allegiance. Activating Differing Soul Telephaty Lv1.

Wut?

Chapter 27: Your Name is....

Tettere~♪ Moss Ball showed sentiment of allegiance. Activating Differing Soul Telepathy Lv1.

After the noGoddess's fanfare ended, my left hand's gauntlet gets hot.

Some kind of pattern floated up from my left gauntlet. Wait, isn't this my family crest. A sakura drawn inside the moon. I believe grandfather said that it was called, 『Sakura of the Moonlit Night』.

And when I look at the moss ball again, there's a pink sakura-like point on the part that seems to be its forehead. Oh, now I can distinguish its front easy... Wait, no.

This is probably the effect of the mysterious skill, Differing Soul Telepathy, but just what happened here?

Discerning-sensei, can you check skill detail too?

【Differing Soul Telepathy】

Connect those who have knotted a bond with Soul Contract. Various benefits

will be given as the skill level goes up.

Lv1 - If the master desires so, they can vaguely understand what their followers think.

It really went and did... this easily. And what's Soul Contract again? It seems that I serve as the master here, but it kind sounds eerie like a contract with the devil. And this Lv1 benefit is really plain. And Moss Ball, you've just met me today, why are you this attached. I'm a bearer of 【Moss Ball Killer】 ya know? In other words, I'm an enemy of your race, are you fine with that?

Poyon poyon, a jumping moss ball.

Eh? You're fine?

Ah, although vague, I really could understand what it's thinking. Well, I don't mind if you're fine with it. Then, I gotta give you a name. Calling you Moss Ball feels too cold.

.....

.....

Honestly, I don't have a good naming sense.

Hmm, how about Pochi?

Shake shake

No huh.

Lalaa.

Shake shake

.

Kentakayuki.

Shake shake

.

Ojaru*.

Shake shake

.

Tama-chan

.

Poyon poyon.

You're okay with that!? Then you're

Tama-chan

from now on.

Tettere~♪ Liberated Beast Tamer Class.

Tettere~♪ Acquired Title

【True Moss Ball Killer】

.

WHAT? The heck is

【True Moss Ball Killer】

??

【True Moss Ball Killer】

True Moss Ball Killer who does not only shoot down life but also heart.
Increase moss ball follower's ability.

What the heck is this... Ah well, not like I lose anything, guess it's ok.

Oh right, how does

Tama-chan

's status look like I wonder.

Name:

Tama-chan

- Gender: Female - Race: Moss Ball

Class: Moss Ball Lv1 -

State: Healthy

Class: None - Bond: Trust

HP: 5/5 MP: 1/1

【Skill】

None

Weak! That's a newborn for you! And

Tama-chan

was a female!? Or rather, Moss Balls have sexual distinction!?

I inadvertently found a companion in my travel. But, could I take

Tama-chan

into the city I wonder.

Well, no choice but to get back and ask about it.

Just going back is too wasteful. Let's check out my skills with Discerning Magic Eyes on the way. Really, I could have had an easier time if I knew about it from the start.

【Elemental Magic Aptitude】

Displays aptitudes of elements besides the particular ones, Fire, Water, Wind, and Earth. Additionally, every time they are invoked, it's possible to control things like the mana consumption and scale at the user's will.

Usable Magic List ※ Liberated in accordance to level

Lv1 Arrow type (Fire, Aqua, Wind, Sand)

Lv2 Wall type, Bind type (Flame, Aqua, Wind, Earth)

Lv3 Storm type (Fire, Aqua, Wind, Sand)

【Sacred Magic】

Magic to performs miracle by offering prayers to Gods and borrow their power. Effect does not differ in the God you believe, but the extent of the miracle changes depending on the blessing and faith level.

Usable Magic List ※ Liberated in accordance to level

Lv1 Heal, Light Arrow

Lv2 Cure Poison, Cure Paralyze

【Magic Modification】

Modifies magic at will. However, the mana consumption differs depending on skill level of the related magic, and the suitability of the image power. The necessary mana jumps up the more the magic is modified, performance of the modified magic will become permanent if it is named.

Hm hm, I see. It's super easy to understand. Maybe I should call it Discernpedia?

And here's my current status.

Name: Nobusada Izumi - Gender: Male - Race: General Human?

Class: Fist Fighter Lv5 - Otherworlder Lv6

State: Healthy

Title:

【True Moss Ball Killer】

HP: 105/105 - MP: 52/146

【Class】

Otherworlder Lv6 (Up!) - Fighter Lv10 - Fist Fighter Lv5 (Up!) - Monk Lv3 -
Magician Lv4 - Conjurer Lv1 - Merchant Lv1 - Farmer Lv1 - Househusband Lv1 -
Thief Lv1 - Hunter L1 - Beast Tamer Lv1 (new!)

【Skill】

Ethania Common Language - Differing Soul Telepathy Lv1 - Magic
Modification Lv1 - Housework Lv1 - Farming Lv3 - Swordsmanship Lv3 -
Grappling Lv1 (new!) - Two-handed Spear Lv2 - Throwing Lv2 - Mana Clad Lv2 -
Evasion Lv2 - Sacred Magic Lv2 - Elemental Magic Aptitude Lv3 - Life Magic -
Disguise Lv2

【Class Skill】

Provocation

【Unique Skill】

Discerning Magic Eyes Lv3 - Levellit's Blessing (Small)

【Tamed Monster】

Tama-chan

【True Moss Ball Killer】

is very effective on

Tama-chan

. Applying the title gave her HP and MP 10 point increase each. Thankfully enough, don't want my travel companion to die early. And there's a new entry, Tamed Monster, from having acquired Beast Tamer class. Getting monster to be tamed would surprise even mutsu*rou-san, I'm sure of it.

By the way,

Tama-chan

is riding on my shoulder right now. I've gotta level up this kid too before long.

I walked toward Gramada while thinking the future plan.

It was right before sunset when I arrived at Gramada.

Now then, I have to confirm about

Tama-chan

. I guess I'll ask at the north gate's guard station.

"Excuse me, I'd like to ask something."

"Ou, what's wrong. Oh, you're safe. Met any goblin on the way?"

This person is Occha-san. He may be an unfashionable bearded old man, but

he's the guard head of this north gate y'know. I got acquainted with him when I was reconfirming the forest's location on my way out.

"Yes, I met three and beat them all. It's nice for some pocket money."

"Hohou, that's some skill. Since Goblins multiply quickly, you'd want to kill them the moment you meet one. So, what do you wanna ask?"

I put

Tama-chan

on my palm and ask.

"This child got attached to me you see, she's a monster, can I bring her into the town?"

"Wha? Is that a Moss Ball!? Haa, never heard of this before. I know you can contract tamed monsters if you've got Beast Tamer class, but to think you can do that with a Moss Ball. People see Moss Balls as the weakest monster, but apparently their ecology is full of mystery you see... this got derailed. You've got to register your Tamed Monster's info at the adventurer guild. I'll issue a temp registration card for now, but make sure to register at the guild by the end of this day. If you dawdle till tomorrow, the temp register will no longer apply and you have to pay the penalty."

Thank you for a very detailed explanation. I'm sorry for calling you

unfashionable. Let's register once I've delivered the herbs to Sefi-san.

"Thank you very much. I'll be going to report my quest completion now."

"Gotcha, good work."

<TLN: If you're reading this novel at any other site than Sousetsuka .com you might be reading an unedited, uncorrected version of the novel.>

The north gate is quite close to Sefi-san's store.

Oh right, I don't know the store's closing time, wonder if it's alright?

I can see lights when get near the store. Not sure if it's still open, but there's someone inside for sure.

"Excuse me."

The door easily opened. It's still open, good.

"Yes yes~. Who is it... Oh my, umm, was it Nobu-chan~. What's up this late~."

That's some sexy attire like usual. It's really half-killing me. Gotta do some quality private time tonight.

Oops, the mood will turn stale from dirty jokes, let's abandon this topic.

"I took your quest at the guild. It's a quest to collect medicinal herbs, isn't it. I've gathered various herbs, could you confirm them?"

"Oh my my, thank you~. I put the quest but no~one ever took it, it was troubling~."

I think it's cause of the bad quest description, yup.

For now, I put the herbs I gathered on the counter.

Hira grass 24 bundles, Gedo grass 16 bundles, Maji grass 9 bundles, Para grass 10 bundles.

I got a lot in quite a short time. Now then, how many yen would I get.

"Just like before, their states are really nice~. My, you even sort out the Maji grass and Para grass~. The person I asked for it before mixed them up, I was

stumped you see~. But this is just perfect~."

Hira grass, and Gedo grass is 50 mani each bundle. Maji grass is 100 mani. Para grass doesn't have that high of a demand so it's cheap at 40 mani.

3,300 mani in total... Huuh? It's more profitable than dungeon diving? No no, it must be because I was at shallow floor. But this is quite a nice extra income.

Ah, come to think of it, I still have that with me. Let's ask her about it as well.

"That reminds me, I found this thing in the dungeon. Is this an ingredient for alchemy?"

I took out the poison of Shut-in Poison Frog from my rucksack.

"Let me see~. Umm, this is a poison taken from the poison sac of a Shut-in Poison Frog right~. You can use it raw as poison, but it won't be really effective since the quality isn't that good~. It can be processed into cardiotoxic drug, but your alchemy level has to be high or else it'll fail~."

"I see. Would you take it too?"

"Sure, but it won't be for much~. Well then, since these herbs' states are

quite nice, I'll help some here, how about 3,500 mani in total~"

"I don't know the market price, I'm fine with what Sefi-san suggests. I believe in you."

She probably won't do such a cunning act like tricking people. It might be my wishful thinking, but that's just the impression I got from her. It's also hugely because she's a beauty though!

"Oh my my~. Geez, you shouldn't tease onee-san~. And here's your pay okay~. Oh right, this quest will now continue, please do help me whenever you're free Nobu-chan~. Would you~?"

"If you don't mind me doing it in my free time, yes. In exchange, do you mind if ask questions about alchemy and magic every once in a while? I'm slightly interested in them."

"My, if that's the case, you can ask me anytime~. If you want, I'd teach you all the steps real carefully, ufufu."

Thanks, but it feels like I'd get eaten, in various meaning! However, that might be exactly what a man asks for!

Chapter 28: Nobusada, Shocking Truth

I've gotten the quest complete signet from Sefi-san when the sun has completely set and immediately head to the guild. That was more profitable than I thought. Some stores were still open on the way there, so I bought some ingredients. Next, I simply need to register for tamed monster and report the quest completion. Ah, gotta claim the goblin ears too. Even though they're ears, they're not animal ears, let's dispose of them quick.

"Oh, I see you're back in one piece dearuna."

Ah, Ranba-san's still here. It's quiet inside the guild. Most adventurers have probably started drinking at various places.

"This is the completion report. And also, I've killed three goblins, if you'd please verify their subjugation parts and purchase the Soul Stones."

"Fumu, acknowledged dearu."

Ranba-san did the procedure in five minutes like he'd gotten used to it.

"Three goblins are 150 mani, and the Soul Stones are reasonably well so

they're 70 mani each, that will be 360 mani in total dearuna."

"Oh and also, I'd like to register this child. Here's the temporary card."

I pointed at Tama-chan on my shoulder and requested for her registration.

"Hohou, Tamed Monster dearuka. So you were a Beast Tamer dearuna. This is the first time I see a tamed Moss Ball dearu. The registration fee will be 400 mani then dearuna."

I received a plate-shaped tamed monster registration card that's a size smaller than the Guild Card from Ranba-san.

He also told me various things. Like you have to update your tamed monsters' info once a year. Otherwise, the registered data will be erased and you have to re-register back. Additionally, you can participate in tamed monster competitions with this registration card. Such competitions are held in various places, brimming with varied and quirky stuff. By the way, there's not going to be one in Gramada city for a while.

Might be interesting to train Tama-chan and aim for the strongest Moss Ball.

"Oh right, this herb gathering quest has changed into a quest personally for you dearu. Now you will get payment directly from the client, so you get to hold on to the quest form here dearuna. With this, the guild will acknowledge the quest completion whenever you get a completion signet nodearu."

Oh, Sefi-san has changed the quest to be like so huh. I should gather herbs whenever I have time. Kinda feels like a nice side job to have.

I thanked Ranba-san and went back to the inn.

After finishing the dinner, I asked Donur-san for a little something through Minerva-chan. Since I got his permission, I'm looking forward to tomorrow morning already.

Come to think of it, what does Tama-chan eat again?

She should be fine as long as there's mana, water and light huh... wait, photosynthesis!? I filled a glass with water using magic and then she dived into it. Tama-chan absorbed the water, looking very satisfied all the while. According to her, it seems to be the 『First rate thick mana water she's been waiting for』. I'm just glad it's to her liking. I don't want Tama-chan getting crushed in my sleep, so I let her sleep in the glass and go to bed myself. I've got to practice before dawn tomorrow, gotta get to sleep quickly, night.

Today's revenue and expenditure, $313,110 + 3,500 + 360 - 400 - 500(\text{foodstuff}) = 316,570$ mani.

<TLN: If you're reading this novel at any other site than Sousetsuka .com you might be reading an unedited, uncorrected version of the novel.>

Good morning, Nobusada here.

It's still before dawn, I'm currently preparing ingredients at the corner of the Solomon Pavillion's kitchen.

As thanks for Master and Eleanor-san, I'm thinking of making a little handmade surprise. Let's make honey toast and deep fried bread with the flour I bought yesterday. By the way, since sugar and honey can be found as drop items in the dungeon here, although slightly pricy, even commoners can buy them. Both are 10 mani per bottle.

Let's also make walnut jam and custard cream as options for the honey toast. I put ham and scrambled eggs in the deep fried bread. Should be no problem even if Master doesn't like sweet things now. Let's make mixed fruit juice with the pears and apples I picked yesterday. But since there's no glass bottles here, I put it in an earthenwares. You often see mcs in some light novels profiting from making glasses but unfortunately I don't know how to make glass myself.

I asked Donur-san and Rakog-san to sample the food I made and they really liked it, enough to ask the recipes. Since I gladly agreed, it shouldn't be long before I can eat them in the inn. Improving food culture is a nice thing to do.

I put the stuff I made into the rucksack and immediately run to Master's house.

After running through the sparse street, I arrive at Master's house where Master and Eleanor-san are already working out.

"Good morning."

"Oo, is that you Nobusada, sorry about yesterday. Duke Asbel got something to discuss with me and I couldn't make it in time."

Master reacted and looked at me. However, the two continue on without stopping.

I hurriedly activate Discerning Magic Eyes and firmly engrave his movement in my brain.

Master has enough leeway to turn his attention to me, while Eleanor-san is frantically attacking him. Eleanor-san who was that frightening yesterday is being toyed with like a child easily. Really sinks in the huge gap in ability.

Eleanor-san who's unleashing a barrage of punches and kicks while moving like flowing. Against, Master who's moving unbelievably fast yet precise belying

his huge build. He parries at times, block at other times, and when he counter attacks, Eleanor-san is forced to take some distance away. I'd lose the two if I relax even an instant. Even if I wholly concentrate myself to watch them, I can only faintly catch what's going on at most. My eyes keep chasing the two while doing stretches.

I see, so that's how you do counter, that should be applicable with weapons, I'm simulating in my head.

"Alright, that's it for now."

"Yes."

Ooh, looks like the two have finished their practice. I put Tama-chan down on top of the rucksack and run up to the two.

"Good morning, Nobusada-san. How are you feeling?"

"Good morning, Eleanor-san. I'm in perfect condition, and my body has been warmed up I can go anytime."

"Fumu, then let's get right to it. Now then, come at me."

Uho, against Master right from the start huh. But that's exactly what I'm waiting for, I'm ready for a honorable defeat.

After we bow at each other, I immediately take the attack stance/Kata.

"Hou, that's a good posture, better than I expected. I see that Eleanor taught you well."

I kick the ground and rush in. Overlapping Eleanor-san's movements earlier with mine. I took Master's held-back attacks that sometimes came at me, with the guard stance/Kata. Amazing, he held back enough to the level of attacks I could somehow block. I'm amazed he could regulate it this well even though he didn't see my training yesterday. I've blocked for several times already, but I still don't get the timing for Counter stance/kata. When I try to counter attack, I ended up losing the timing and letting out flimsy attacks and even taking some punches sometimes. It's exceedingly difficult.

I give up with the wacky attacks and focus on basic attacks instead. My clothes were wet with sweat when I was beginning to lose my breath.

"Alright, let's take a break here."

"Y-yesss"

I crouch down and gasp. And then someone holds out a towel to me.

"Please use this. Your movement has improved so much it's hardly distinguishable from yesterday's."

"Thank you very much, gasp wheeze."

It's gasping, not arousal okay.

"(Hohoho, looks like they get along better than expected. Hiding the new pupil's identity to make it a surprise was worth it)."

Kinda feels like Master is looking at us warmly, let's just ignore it. It somehow feels like he's plotting something, or is he?

That reminds me, I've had this something in mind forever, but never got the chance to ask someone about it. Might as well ask now, given the chance.

"Um, I'd like you to ask you two something."

"What's the matter?"

"What is it?"

"I've seen an acquaintance and Kyle using Weapon Skills before, how do you use those?"

""EH?""

The two looked shocked and then their expressions changed to that of pitying. Eh, did I say something wrong?

"Nobusada, you don't have any one-hand sword Weapon Skills do you? Having that question must mean that you haven't learned even one Weapon Skill."

"Y-yes. Is that a bad thing?"

"Nobusada-san. Weapon Skills are something that you somehow learn one by one whenever your skill level increase if you have the disposition for it."

...A shocking truth!? In other words, that huh, is that it huh!!??

"I-in other words, I don't have the disposition for Weapon Skills, maybe?"

"You got that right!"

Uhoo, he went and said it out loud! So clearly to the point of refreshing! Even blew away my feeling of getting down.

Chapter 29: If I Can't Use Weapon Skills, I'll Just Make One

The fact that I don't have the disposition for Weapon Skills is shocking, but I'm not giving up.

"Well don't worry about it. To begin with, everyone worked out their own techniques before Weapon Skills and martial arts came to be y'know. Then you should just make one yourself. You can use magic, right? Combining that with your techniques, and creating a way to fight exclusive to you have a potential to be far stronger than those."

As expected of master, he's largehearted. His logic feels Marie-ish somewhat.

<TLN: Not sure which Marie he's talking about or if the author really means 'Marie' here.>

However, currently it's unclear whether I don't have the disposition for the skill or for the weapon skill itself. Perhaps, I can't acquire it since I'm an outsider from another world. With that in mind, I really should better do a variety of trials and errors just like master said.

"Furthermore, I'm curious to see what kind of techniques you will work out. It looks like it'd be fun."

Oufh, it's completely a mere curiosity. But sounds like working out a

technique while listening to master's experiences will be many times faster than not. He's cooperating this time, but I'd even beg to get him teach me.

"Then father. Let me make our breakfast."

"N-no wait, Eleanor. I'll do it... okay, okay."

Master's complexion turned pale at once. Faces can really turn pale this clearly in reality huh.

"Father, you have to train Nobusada-san, don't you? Let me make it as it's been awhile."

"W-wait I said..."

Mumumu, looks like master would really rather avoid Eleanor-san's cooking no matter what? Ah right, I made breakfast already, completely forgot about it.

"Ah, then would you two like to have these food I made? I thought I should do this much at least as thanks for allowing me to learn here."

"Is that so! Since you've gone all the trouble of making them, we cannot let them go to waste!!"

Master made a thumb up while saying that outside of Eleanor-san's view. Looks like I did a good job.

"I've made it easy to eat outside, let's spread a mat and enjoy it here. The weather's fine today and all."

"R-right. My apologies, Nobusada-san. Looks like we've caused you trouble."

"Please don't worry about it. I like to cook myself, you see."

I spread a mat and put out the food I made.

Honey toast, deep-fried bread, walnut jam, custard cream, fruit juice and also some fruits. I've peeled the apples into rabbit shapes.

Master and Eleanor-san sound impressed when they see them.

"Well well, these look solid. You can open a store with these."

"These might be even better than the store bought ones."

"Please help yourself while they're still warm. Here's the honey toast. They're good as is, but putting jam and cream on them are also nice on their own."

"Hou hou, then I'll go with this."

"I'm getting this one."

Master picked the deep-fried bread, Eleanor-san bit on the honey toast. And then they let out indescribable smiles with one bite. Umu, seeing them making those smiles makes me contend making these.

"This crunch is quite nice. And the egg and ham inside ooze out some nice flavor too. I'm never gonna get tired eating this."

"Waaa, this bread is so soft and good. Adding this jam here also gives nice flavor to it. Why are you an adventurer when you can make food this good?"

No well, I learned to cook out of necessity. It's also a kind of obsession. I mean, might as well eat something tasty if I have to make them right.

"Since I was living alone with my grandfather, I naturally ended up taking charge of our food. But it's only for our own shares. I won't be able to play if I turn it into work."

They're disappearing fast while I'm talking. Their eating pace is seriously fast! There's only a few remaining even though I made more than enough shares for three people.

"That was really good. I'm completely satiated."

"It really is... Nobusada-san is better at cooking no matter how you look at it, as a woman I..."

Eleanor-san's voice got quieter and I couldn't hear the latter part, but she seemed down about something. Ah, right, I've gotta feed Tama-chan too.

"Tama-chan, house!"

<TLN: If you're reading this novel at any other site than Sousetsuka .com you might be reading an unedited, uncorrected version of the novel.>

When I said the call I taught her yesterday, Tama-chan bounced toward me like poyon poyon.

I created water with magic and pour it into a cup where Tama-chan went into and soaked in.

Huh? The two look stunned? Is Moss Ball unusual?

"Nobusada. What is this?"

Master asked while pointing his finger at Tama-chan.

"Eh? It's my tamed monster I met yesterday. She's Tama-chan, a Moss Ball. I've registered her as a Tamed Monster so there's no problem taking her into the city, you know?"

"M-Moss Ball, as a tamed monster? I've been in the guild relatively long, but this is the first I've seen one..."

"So do I. I know some beast tamers, but no one tried to make Moss Ball their tamed monster. In the first place, we don't even know how to have a mutual understanding when these things don't even let out a voice."

Well, it was due to specific circumstances and skill in my case. I just went with the flow and she was my Tamed Monster before I knew it.

"Putting that aside, Eleanor. Shouldn't you go to the guild right about now? You have work today, don't you?"

"Eh? It's this time already!? I-I've got to hurry."

Eleanor-san fiercely dashed back into her house, got out in her uniform in a few minutes and ran to the guild. I mean, she's fast. She's already out of sight.

"Fhuu, considering her age, she'd do good to calm down a bit."

"I think she's doing well at the guild. Well, the usual Eleanor-san is nice and fun too."

"Haahaahaa, then how about making her your wife?"

"EEH!? I still haven't got steady earning yet, so that kind of thing is still to early."

"I'm joking, joking. Now then, I can only accompany you for one more hour, and since we've got a topic now, wanna try working out a technique? First of all,

what kind of skills do you have?"

Master is looking at me with excited eyes like that of a boy. Looks like he's looking forward to see how many techniques I could make. I'm hoping for this myself too. I might be aiming too high, but it'd be nice if I could materialize one or two techniques here.

"I am not sure how much should I unveil, but since it's master, I'm willing to fully disclose it. Please point it out if you think there's something amiss. For combat skills, I have Swordsmanship Lv3, Grappling Lv1, Two-handed Spear Lv2, Throwing Lv2. As for magic, I have Sacred Magic Level 2, and all elemental magic Level 3."

"Wha?"

The second stunned master today.

"Wait, why a vanguard, with that many magic... Fumu, that many skills, there must be peculiar circumstances. I get that skill composition in that case..."

He's confirming the situations while muttering. He got that far even without me saying anything huh.

"Fumu, well, there are classes like Magic Warrior and such after all, it's not

that odd in itself. However, the amount of skills is unbelievable for a beginner. You might get in a scuffle about invitations and stuff if you stand out too much. If you don't want that, might be a good idea to search your own party members."

"For the time being, I'll be solo... No, I'll work it out together with Tama-chan. If fate allows, I'd like to make a party, but I'm still a greenhorn in regard to combat skills and such..."

"That might be a good stance to take. Still, elemental magic leve 3 huh. Let me see, try shooting at that wooden dummy."

Guess arrow type is fine for now. I shoot fire, water, wind and earth arrows in succession.

I looked at master with a 'what do you think' face but he urged me to use more magic. Aren't you enjoying watching magic this closely too much, master?

I'll use magic I can use one by one as requested for now. Or rather, wouldn't fire storm or wind storm bother your neighbors? Just don't blame me if they come complaining about their laundry catching sands, okay?

After having used several magic, master speaks.

"Nobusada. You're already outside the norm."

What!?

Chapter 30: Tama, Mushroom and Me

"As a magician that is."

Master, please don't drop me down after lifting me up.

"You're obviously better as a magician. Bearing four elements. In addition, no-chant and chant shortening are stuff that even professional magicians might not be capable of. Even then, the firepower is lower. And yet, that doesn't seem to be the case at all for you."

I'm sorry, I didn't even know that chant exists. I might be a BS existence for people who study magic the honest way.

After confirming those stuff, we begin the technique development. Now then master, bring me your unreserved opinions.

--30 minutes later

"How's that. So when you're combining them, wait for this timing and do it like... this and that."

--One hour later

"I see, I see. Then the loss would kept at a minimum if I change it like this when invoked right?"

--One and a half hour later

"Niice. Then turn this one..."

Master's and my secret move development went way over the time. Master's subordinate even came to pick him up since he was way late, the guy was really mad. Eventually, the subordinate dragged Master with him with teary eyes when he said, 『Eh, just forget about that』. I'm sorry Mr. subordinate.

There's no training tomorrow, thus I'm gonna accept a quest and train in the dungeon.

Tama-chan's with me after all, if there's some quest that can be done inside the dungeon, might as well do it while leveling up.

I'd also like to test my new techniques and our coordination. Now that's decided, to the guild.

Adventurer Guild 10 AM. It's packed with people unlike the sparse times I've been here up until now. I mean, several parties are overrunning the quest board, I can't see anything!?! Kuh, being short is hard.

I somehow managed to get in front of the board by slipping through the gaps between the adventurers. Wh, who the heck touched my butt?

Wonder if there's a good quest around~?

<< Rare Mushroom Gathering >>

Please gather 『Eggplant Mushrooms』 (smooth elongated mushrooms) dropped by 『Lostshrooms』 in Dungeon Fonbran. Get as many as you can.

Reward: 1000 mani for each

Date: Evening of the third day

Client: Solomon's Pavillion innkeeper

※ Please bring the requested item to the client directly and ask for the

completion mark.

It seems the client is Donur-san. For now, I'll decide after checking this quest's details. But still, is it an eggplant or a mushroom, what an unclear ingredient.

Err, and Eleanor-san is... Ah there she is, I'll line up at the queue in front of Eleanor-san's quest counter.

15 minutes later.

"Thank you for waiting. Next one please... Wait, Nobusada-san. Are you accepting quest?"

"Actually, I'd like to decide after knowing more about this."

"Eggplant mushrooms? I think Nobusada-san would be fine on 2F as long as nothing unusual happens. However, you have no choice but to leave the drop to luck. Do you have a map? If you do, I'll mark the place where they group together for you."

"Oh! I do, I do. That'll really help. Then I'll take this quest."

"Yes, I've ascertained it here. Be careful okay."

I even got informed of the places they swarm, must be a good omen. Awright, Tama-chan, let's do our best.

<TLN: If you're reading this novel at any other site than Sousetsuka .com you might be reading an unedited, uncorrected version of the novel.>

We quickly walk toward 2F once we get into the dungeon. Going straight on 1F will get you to 2F. There's really a lot of beginner adventurers on 1F. Or rather, I'm one of them. Oh right, got to set my first class to Thief. Kinda feel like it'll increase the drop rate somehow. Please go up, I'm begging you. My second class is still Otherworlder. I'd love to gain a bit more MP for the magic and technique development.

Sounds of my footsteps echoed in the quiet dungeon. And then a Pawn Dog is standing tall on a passage with no obstructions.

Pawn Dog Lv 3

HP:15/15 MP:0/0

"Wind Bind!"

GYAUN

Here's a mutt whose hind legs are tied up by a ring of wind and cannot move. Fuhahaha, you shall be become nourishment for Tama-chan.

"Tama-chan, go!"

Tama-chan hurls herself at the mutt with my signal. Do your best Tama-chan. Its mouth and forelegs can still move, so be careful.

Afterward, Tama-chan beat up the mutt while I re-invoked the Wind Bind every time it was about to run out.

And then, Tama-chan was right below the mutt's chin when it started to stagger.

"Tama-chan, uppercut!"

ZUDOM!

I called it uppercut and all, but it's actually a whole body blow. Well, it's all about feeling. The mutt's HP finally turned zero with Tama-chan's body blow. Good job, Tama-chan.

I kindly pat Tama-chan. She's shaking like she's feeling good as I pat her. What's this lovely thing, I wanna take it home. ...Oh right, I did.

Teretettette~♪ Thief leveled up

Tererete~te~tentettere~♪ Tama-chan leveled up

The fanfare's different than mine for some reason! This stuff is way too elaborate, Levellit-sama.

Since it's a body blow, Tama-chan also receives damage depending on the enemy's and Tama-chan's defense. Her HP decreased a bit since she hit some bad part, so I used Heal on her just in case. I wasn't sure if it would work on a monster even though it was a Tamed Monster, but I was relieved to see that she healed just fine.

Afterward, Tama-chan hunted a Pawn Dog that appeared along the way and we went down to 2F.

2F doesn't look too different than 1F, but the atmosphere feels heavier somehow. And it's a bit dim. Since it's the first time I'm on this floor, I put Tamachan on my shoulder and advance cautiously.

Fortunately, I reached the place where the quest monsters group together without any encounter along the way.

Looking around. ...There they are! Mushrooms as tall as a kid, walking around. It's the kind with limbs that's common in stories. However, there's no face, I don't know how to distinguish the front and back. And, one, two, three... Seven mushrooms huh.

Tettere~♪ Discerning Magic Eyes leveled up

Lostshroom Lv6

HP:24/24 MP:2/2

Dungeon-birth fungal genus lost mushroom Lostshroom. They don't have eyes, but they will come attacking you if they detect you. They can link between themselves within a certain range, be warned. The Lostshroom itself is not a food, be warned. There are also specimens that spread poison around.

The info is more detailed than ever, maybe because Discerning Magic Eyes-sensei leveled up. Still, scientific name? or rather, they can link. It probably means to say that Link will turn inactive monsters into active ones if there are same specimens inside the combat range. I assume that Discerning-sensei displayed the info in a way that's easy to understand for me. Still, link-type huh... It'll be bad if it turns into a train of monsters.

Since the Lostshrooms are looping their movements, attacking when they're far from us and drawing them here sound like a good plan.

"Tama-chan, wait."

Tama-chan stands by diagonally behind me. I'll have her evacuate behind a cover if she needs to.

I'm gonna use pure magic without modification this time.

"Fire Arrow!"

Bwoosh, with that sound, a fire arrow flies toward one of the Lostshrooms. It hit a Lostshroom nicely. Just as I thought, the hit rate is higher than the modified one.

Not sure how to find out how much damage to death when it doesn't even show it, it's coming straight here either way. I grab my iron sword and ready myself. Unlike before, my posture is that of the Attack Form/Kata.

BRUTTSAAAAAAAAAAAAA

The Lostshroom is charging here while roaring weirdly, where does its voice even come from.

Lostshroom Lv 6

HP: 8/24 MP: 2/2

Mumumu, the damage is higher than expected. Perhaps fire element is its weakness.

I just need to finish it after this much damage. I change into Counter Form/Kata and measure the timing. Right when the Lostshroom is about to headbutt me, I swing my sword toward it. The Lostshroom that was nicely cut in two disappears into particles. With no drop, aphew.

Fire element is their weakness.... Then maybe I can kill them all in one fell swoop using Fire Storm? If not, it's highly possible that I can create high temperature blue flame through image modification. Alright, let's give it a try once there's only a few of the separated ones left.

I beat the Lostshrooms one by one along with Tama-chan. When there's only three left, it's experiment time. By the way, the total killed so far is four. One gave red magic stone, and one gave Hen-of-woods (maitake). Guess I'll make some maitake tempura next time.

I got right outside their sensing range to measure the fire storm range. Doing so had gotten easier since I somehow understood the effective range after Discerning-sensei's level up.

Then I invoke the magic once the three Lostshrooms have gone inside the range.

"Fire Storm!"

Torrent of flames roast the mushrooms. I cancel the magic once they had been burned to cinders. The fact that the Lostshrooms cannot move from the swirling fire was a nice miscalculation.

The 『Filtth sterilization!』 plan is very possible with this. In short, I'm just going

with <<Search and Destroy>>.

I turned the cluster grounds into scorched earths as I went around the places Eleanor-san marked. Hahaha, filth sterilization! How sad, this is really extermination.

Whoopsie, I got too much into it again. But it feels like I just have to inspire myself like that.

I mean, the eggplant mushroom aren't dropping at all. I've burned more than 40 shrooms now, yet just why. Well, I got myself Hen-of-woods, shimeji mushrooms, Fly Agaric and magic stones though.... hm? There's poisonous ones mixed in them.

The time is nearing evening already. I also need to tread the way back, guess I'll end it after the next cluster ground.

By the way, apparently, Tama-chan receives experience point even if the enemy is killed by my magic. She's growing up nicely. I think she can most likely win against a Lostshroom in a one-to-one fight.

Chapter 31: Blast! New Finisher

And here's our destination. A slightly large room. Protruded rocks scattered here and there, with around 10 Lostshrooms enshrined within the room. Yep, they're not walking around. Wonder what this means? However, this is just convenient for roasting them. My remaining MP is about half after several battles with intermittent rests. Tama-chan's and my HP are at max. I carefully get closer to them until I'm within the range.

And activate! The last ranged magic for today!!

"Fire Storm!"

Bwoosh, blazing flames swallow the Lostshrooms again into a whirlpool. Burn, buuurn.

After confirming that they've turned into cinders, I undo the magic and approach them to check out the drop items.

Huh?

Usually the bodies disappear into light particles and leave drop items behind, but one of them isn't this time?

ZUO!

A purple-like thing spread out of the blackened lump that should have been burned down and then I got blown away.

Owowow. What just happened? I was completely caught off guard. It fortunately hit my breastplate and didn't give that much damage.

The black part of the Lostshroom that should have been scorched cracks, I can see something purple underneath. The crack gradually spreads to its entire body, and fall off, eventually a purple Lostshroom that's one size smaller is looking at me. Not like it has eyes though.

D Lostshroom Lv11

HP:30/45 MP:6/12

Mutated form of the dungeonborn walking type fungi class Lostshroom. An evolution of a specimen that had a certain amount of mana and underwent a period of blank mind. It is capable of cutting off its weakness, fire element, by sacrificing its outer skin. It also has more attack variety, a completely improved version of the species.

What's with the D?

The D Lostshroom launched its attack while I was thinking that. Hold on, it's already within attacking range even though I put a distance when I got blown away!?

ZUO, its arms lengthen out to attack me. Wait, it can stretch both its arms. How bothersome, that'll make it hard to grasp the timing.

Is the D from a certain traveling Indian fighter or something? It's not going to teleport now, is it??

Wait, there's no room to think about stupid things. It's surprisingly fast, it's hard to charge in.

I grasp the timing to attack back while parrying with Defense Form.

1, 2, and 3, now!

WOSH

Eh? My timing should have been perfect... or rather, the D Lostshroom who was right in front of me disappeared!?

Where'd it go... Eh, behind me?

BUFOAAAAAAAAAA

Right when I tried to get away, something that seemed to be mist attacked me from behind.

Damn, I couldn't make it in time even though Tama-chan went and informed me.

It's sticky and smells bad. I quickly chanted Dry and made it evaporate.

However, how did it even manage to get behind me? Can it be, can it really teleport....

I got the answer soon after.

BUO

I parried the stretched arm and took some distance away this time. Then, the D Lostshroom's stretched arm caught a rock behind me, and then it moved its entire body to where the rock was when it restored its arm. What a brute force way.

Then how about I take some distance and shoot it with fire. I shot four fire arrows in succession and only one hit. Moreover, the part where that one arrow hit turned black and scrapped off, not giving it much damage.

What an exceedingly annoying evolution. Huff, puff.

What's this, I'm losing breath. Pretty sure I didn't move that much though.

BUO

Kuh, it's not giving me times to ponder huh. And then my eyes got blurry. Why now of all time.

My movements obviously became duller afterward. What the heck is this. I quickly check my status, just the summary's fine.

Name: Nobusada Izumi - Gender: Male - Race: General Human?

State: Lethargic Poison

Poison! That mist earlier was a poison mist huh. This is the first I've heard Lethargic Poison, but it probably a poison that slows you down. That's one troublesome poison.

"Cure Poi..."

BUOU

CLANG

The D Lostshroom launched fierce attacks, not allowing me to use detox magic. Worst of all, my iron sword was flung far away. Damn it, I've got no choice but to ask for it, though I'm uneasy about it.

--Tama-chan, help. keep it away from me just for a little bit.

After I sent the SOS signal to Tama-chan who was hiding behind a rock, a small green mass stood before a queer creature. I'm sorry, I'll cure myself quick, so bear with it...

"Cure Poison."

I erase the poison and also heal myself in a hurry. This is bad, Tama-chan's HP is decreasing fast.

I can't exactly run out and grab the iron sword now.

That said, Tama-chan might get dragged into it if I used magic. There's no time

to open my rucksack either.

<TLN: If you're reading this novel at any other site than Sousetsuka .com you might be reading an unedited, uncorrected version of the novel.>

BISHI, BASHI

The offenses and defenses continue, but she's obviously at a disadvantage.

--Tama-chan, it's fine already, get back!

When I told her that, Tama-chan received a blow from the D Lostshroom and got flung in the air. Tamachaaaaan!

"The hell you done to our kid, you shitty piece of funguuuuuuuuuuuuuus"

I'm, enraged. Can't control my emotion. I'm gonna beat you to a pulp now.

I rush toward the D Lostshroom that has stiffened for an instant after hitting Tama-chan.

It didn't really go well during practices, but I've got no choice here. I'll make use of the chance Tama-chan gave and finish this thing off!

I concentrate mana on my right hand and formulate the image. Modified Earth Wall. Turn clay wall into a wall of rock. Sharp, brutal, with lots of thorns!

I'll hit the stiffened D Lostshroom with a surprise blow from the Attack Form. This is the combination of magic and skills!!

"ROCK HAND SMAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAASH!!!"

I launch my right fist from a slightly crouched down position with an added twist toward the seemingly side stomach part of the D Lostshroom. At the same time, the magic I imagined manifested on my fist as rocks clad around it, and in addition, several thorny rocks wrapped it. Each thorn is about 5cm long, and they've pierced the D Lostshroom deep.

Not yet! It's not over yet!

"BLAST!!"

All the thorns went inside the D Lostshroom along with an explosive sound. The added formula is like a zero distance shotgun blast. I have added fire magic in the magic composition, so the power should increase. The recoil on my right fist is absorbed by the remaining rock wall... or it should have been, it's quite painful still.

Yup, it's more powerful than expectation. Even though the D Lostshroom barely survives, its upper half body where I drive down my fist has been shredded into pieces. This technique is too powerful for interpersonal combat, it could make things turn real gross. There's many rooms for improvement still.

Afterward, I take out an iron spear from my rucksack and thrust the D Lostshroom with it at once. The D Lostshroom's HP turned 0 before it disappeared into particles of light.

Ah, is Tama-chan alright!?

Tama-chan is lying slightly away from where I am. She still has 2 HP remaining. Oh good. And I'm sorry Tama-chan. It's completely my mistake this time. I apologize to Tama-chan while healing her.

shake shake

Don't mind it huh. Thank you Tama-chan. I quietly pat her body.

Tereretettette~♪ Thief, Otherworlder Levelled Up

Tettere~♪ Acquired Composite Magic

Tettere~♪ Grapple Levelled Up

Tettere~♪ Magic Modification Levelled Up

Tettere~♪ Thief has Levelled up to 10, 『Treasure Hunter』 Class has manifested.

Tettere~♪ Tama-chan's Bond has turned into Deep Affection, Differing Soul Telepathy Levelled Up.

Tererete~te~tentettere~♪ Tama-chan Levelled Up. Reached Moss Ball's Level Limit. Met the requirement to Class Change.

And that solemn mood is wasted by the NoGoddess's fanfare. Read the mood, dangit.

Either way, that's a lot of increases.

But still, so Tama-chan can class change!? Who would've thought that this kid's hard fight would be rewarded this way!

When I imagine tapping Tama-chan's Class to see the reaction, there's only one possible Class Change.

『Super Moss Ball Lv1』 <TLN: Super Marimo in Japanese.>

...Is it all right in various ways? She's a Moss Ball after all, there's no problem right? I set it at once since there's no other choices.

KAH

Tama-chan's body is immediately wrapped in light. Then the lights goes down... Looking closer, her glossy fur has improved, and the mofu-ness also gets nicer when I touch her. Her soothing level to me has risen indeed, but what about her fighting strength? Guess it needs future inspections.

And when I look around again calmly, I see two purple things lying on the ground. Yes, those things I've been searching for.

"Eggplant Mushroom, gotcha-----!!"

I inadvertently raised them high up on both hands and shouted out loud.

Chapter 32: Tama-chan's Potentials

The Eggplant Mushroom's finally dropped!

I can go back triumphantly now.

By the way, I tried experimenting a bit with the Fly Agarics I got as drop items.

Eh? What kind of experiment?

Eh, just this trivial suspicion as to whether defeating monsters with poisoned tools would gain me experience or not.

I changed my First Class to Conjurer and Second Class to Beast Tamer, and tried it on Pawn Dogs I encountered on my way back.

And the result, you do gain exp doing so. I tested with several Pawn Dogs and every one of them checked out. And surprisingly, even

Tama-chan

who didn't do anything gained exp. Need to check more to see if it applies only to Tamed Monsters or to party members also.

But really, even though I was the one who did it, using poison really left a bad taste afterward. I put the agaric into the mouth of a Pawn Dog I had tied with Wind Bind and left it alone for a while. Its HP was gradually decreasing, but the scene was, y'know.... I thought of ending their suffering right away many

times.

If I get more agaric next time, let's pile it up somewhere goblins come out! They might eat them since they eat anything, truly evil!

No wait, maybe I should dry and turn them into flour and then scatter it into a goblin colony with wind magic... Where'd the sentiment earlier go again. I sure am dirty, if I say so myself.

Let's stop thinking stupid stuff and quickly go back. I'd like to take it easy for now. Checking status and stuff can be for later. I'm already tired for today.

Solomon's Pavilion, I'm back!

Phew~, and the open seat... The usual one at the counter is. Hasn't it turned into my special seat now?

Fou-chan came to confirm my order when I took the seat.

"G-good work. How are you doing today?"

"It's been great, I've completed the quest I took too."

"I'm glad to hear that. Um, then you have to eat some good food and do even better tomorrow."

As expected of a waitress. Her lip service is perfect.

"Then, err, I'd like the recommended fruit juice. Oh, and this salted fried black tiger too please. Also, I've brought the item Donur-san requested, could you ask him when I can meet him?"

Fou-chan was dumbfounded. Her bunny ears were still swaying though. Then she came to, like, 'Ha' with her bunny ears standing upright. I wait for her response while suppressing the urge to mofu touch them.

"I understand. I will be sure to inform you when I bring the dish."

Fou-chan took my order and went to the kitchen.

Come to think of it, I ended up ordering the dish since I was intrigued to see it at the end of the menu list, but I wonder if tiger tastes good?

Just how will it be!!

Yup, I thought that this would be the punchline.

It was salted fried black tiger (prawns). Dammit, it's good, so good.

The saltiness from the sweat of my heart was a bit too much though.

Tama-chan

is resting on my shoulder with a perfect balance.

She's treated as a tamed monster in the inn too, but Donur-san permitted her to stay in my room.

I immediately asked about it after registering her as a tamed monster, but apparently, there's no need to pay additional fee for a tamed monster the size of

Tama-chan

.

Or rather,

Tama-chan

is very popular amongst the little girl group (Minerva, Fou), her affection graph has completely overtaken me in a blink of an eye and reigns supreme on top. I'm not lonely, not at all, sniff.

It's a world with few amusements. Even though there are dolls, most are realistic bisque doll-like stuff, looks like there's craving for cute ones. Children

who have never gone out of the city probably would have never thought that Moss Balls are a monster.

What surprising was how Donur-san kept stealing glances like he wanted to pat

Tama-chan

. You can't, okay? The little girl group takes priority.

<TLN: If you're reading this novel at any other site than Sousetsuka .com you might be reading an unedited, uncorrected version of the novel.>

When most of the adventurers have left, I meet Donur-san in the staff break room.

"Here's the requested items, two 『

Eggplant Mushroom

s』. Please have a look."

Eggplant Mushroom

Quality: Good - Expiration Date: Until Withered

A high class mushroom with mellow fragrant, smooch food texture and irresistible down-the-throat sensation. It's not 'smooth', it's 'smooch'. Loved by all, from children to gloomy widows.

"Umu, this is what I requested. The quality and the luster are good too, no problem there."

"Good to hear that. But really, I heard that it was a rare drop, but I never imagined it would be that rare."

"That's, thanks for the trouble. I could purchase other foodstuff if you'd like to?"

"Ah, are you sure? I've got quite a bit of other stuff, I don't know what to do about them, that will really help."

I take out 15 hen-of-the-woods, 8 shimeji mushrooms, 4 enoki mushrooms, and 10 shiitake mushrooms from my rucksack. I've left enough to make tempura for myself. They're sold by a bunch besides the shiitake.

"This is, you've knocked down quite a lot mushrooms I see. Quality is good too. In total... how about 580 mani?"

That's quite a bit higher than the price I peeked on the grocery stores on my back. I guess that's only appropriate considering mine are of higher quality.

"Gladly. Still, procuring these ingredients on top of the requested mushrooms, is there going to be some sort of event?"

Oh, Donur-san is scratching his nose tip bashfully.

"Er, well. It'll be our wedding anniversary in three days. I wanted to cook my wife's favorite dish."

My my, this is, Nobusada-san went and asked too much it seems. Thank you for the treat. It appears that Donur-san is a devoted husband.

"Well then, here's your reward and quest completion mark. It's ultimately a drop item. So I was unsure when I posted the quest. You did well getting them. Thank you, Nobusada."

Mwu, my HP was diminishing when Donur-san boasted his love story, but I'm not sure now after getting thanked straight like this. Well, I'm just glad to help keep Donur-san's family harmony. I'll just heal this bachelor me by mofu-ing

Tama-chan

.

Now then, time to go back to my room and check for the levels up and reflection time. Here's my current status.

Name: Nobusada Izumi - Gender: Male - Race: General Human?

Class: Conjurer Lv3 - Beast Tamer Lv3

State: Healthy

Title: 【True Moss Ball Killer】

HP: 160/160 - MP: 1,287/2,085

【Class】

Otherworlder Lv10 (Up!) - Fighter Lv10 - Fist Fighter Lv5 (Up!) - Monk Lv3 - Magician Lv4 - Conjurer Lv3 - Merchant Lv1 - Farmer Lv1 - Househusband Lv1 - Thief Lv10 (up!) - Hunter L1 - Beast Tamer Lv3 (new!)

【Skill】

Ethania Common Language - Differing Soul Telepathy Lv2 - Magic Modification Lv2 (up!) - Composite Magic Lv1 (new!) - Housework Lv1 - Farming Lv3 - Swordsmanship Lv3 - Grappling Lv2 (up!) - Two-handed Spear Lv2 - Throwing Lv2 - Mana Clad Lv2 - Evasion Lv2 - Sacred Magic Lv2 - Dark Magic Lv1 (new!) - Elemental Magic Aptitude Lv3 - Life Magic - Disguise Lv2

【Class Skill】

Provoke - Treasure Hunter

【Unique Skill】

Discerning Magic Eyes Lv4 (up!) - Levellit's Blessing (Small)

【Tamed Monsters】

Tama-chan

Today's income and expenditure - capital 316,570 - 130 (fruit juice and black tiger) + 2,580 (2

Eggplant Mushroom

s + various mushrooms)= 319, 020 mani

Ouph, my MP became 4 digit number before I knew it. I can do more magic and technique training now.

Conjurer leveled up during the fly agaric experiment and I learned Dark Magic.

Here's the details I got from Discerning-sensei.

【Differing Soul Telepathy】

Lv2 Easier to learn skills the master has

【Dark Magic】

Exerts a variety of effect by manipulating the power of darkness. Abnormal status efficacy and success rate fluctuate depending on level and consumed mana.

Available Magic List ※ Liberated on level up

Lv1

Pain - Cause limb pain

Curse - Place a curse on a target. Covers immobility, coma, feeble, intelligence down and others, the needed mana changes the more complex the placed curse is.

【Composite Magic】

Skill that exemplifies talent to combine magic. The possible combination is unlimited, restricted only by imaginative power and mana.

Thief 『Treasure Hunter』

Increase the probability of item drop after killing monsters

And here's

Tama-chan

's status

Name:

Tama-chan

- Gender: Female - Race: Moss Ball

Class: S Moss Ball Lv2 -

State: Healthy

Title: None - Bond: Deep Affection

HP: 45/45 - MP 12/12

(Status is improved by the effect of master's title)

【Skill】

Divided Body Generation - Sacred Magic Lv1 (new!)

『Super Moss Ball』

The beginning first stage of the many potentials the weakest unknown Moss Ball has. A new star that hadn't appeared in 10 years in the world of Moss Balls.

Wha!?

Tama-chan

learned magic!? I was dumbfounded to see the unexpected skill. Exactly a monster of potentials?

It seems Discerning-sensei's level is still not high enough to see the details on Divided Body Generation. Gotta put more effort on Discerning-sensei.

Now then, the reflection point this time is how I got too carried away. Especially the stumble at the end because I turned it into an extermination routine due to no drop. I could have lost

Tama-chan

in the worst case scenario. Meaning I can't let my guard down even on 2F. Furthermore, I'm weak against abnormal status since I'm flying solo. Panicking to the point I forgot to take Cure Potion from the rucksack. I've got to think a way to take those stuff without using the rucksack. I can't be thankful enough for

Tama-chan

learning sacred magic here. Please do grow more from here on.

As for the new technique, it's a failure and a success in a way. I've succeeded creating the composition and activating it, but there's a ton of points for

improvements. Though I originally planned it to be made of metal, and for it to be a pile bunker, not thorns, but I gave up at the creating metal part. Apparently, I lack the skill and knowledge to make that. It should progress rapidly in many ways if I could do just that. As for the technique itself, the firepower is too high and the MP consumption is awfully enormous. That one blow consumed a hell lot of my MP. Might be a good idea to add more variations on the rock, like drill type or short lancer type.

My next goal is to level up all the classes to 10 while continuing my training. Not sure if it applies to all classes, but apparently, you get a Class Skill at level 10. Those seem like they'll be useful.

Oh right, I shouldn't forget to gather herbs too since I've promised Sefi-san. I'd like to learn alchemy while at it.

Alright! Reflection end. I'll do my best tomorrow too.

Good night, Tama-chan

.

Poyon

Interlude 1: Sefi and Alchemy

It's only been a week since that slightly unusual boy visited this store. It really hasn't been that long, is it~. Feels like I've known him loong before that.

When he timidly came inside the dim store, it really stimulated my protective instinct. But when we actually talked, he was stealing glances at my face and chest. And when I told him about that, he turned red, all sweaty and like, "Y-you knew?". *Chuck*le, I forgot who said it, but men's glances are very obvious to women you know~.

And before I realized, he has become something like a pupil in alchemy to me.

It started with the quest I put out at the Adventurer Guild. Before when I put a similar quest, the herbs were plucked haphazardly, the variety were mixed all over, and the adventurers who took the quest boasted they rooted out all the herbs they found. And despite that terrible job, they even demanded additional fee as a remuneration.

That's why I made the reward to change depending on the state of the herbs this time. The guild receptionist looked troubled when I submitted the quest description, but she let it be and even apologized when I explained why I did it. I'm glad that the one in charge was that senior girl. I mean, the younger ones would probably persist and not allow it~.

He took up that quest and came to this store with the herbs. I almost doubted my eyes back then~.

Going as far as separating Maji Grass and Para Grass that amateurs have a hard time distinguishing, and thoroughly storing them in cloths to protect the roots. And he had sorted them all in bunches. I mean, he brought quite a lot after all. I'd like the big dummies back then to learn from him.

I've come to really like this kid, uun, Nobu-chan at this time. I changed the quest to personal quest only for him too. He seemed to have an interest in alchemy and magic, and agreed to it if I taught him that, he said.

Oh my, he's better at negotiation than I thought, sometimes he showed adult sides in contrast to his appearance, how mysterious~.

Afterward, the alchemy class begun every time he came here with the herbs. And he's really really quick at learning. He went and mastered the basic of compounding while I stared in amazement you know~. According to the person himself, "I get some parts easy since those parts are similar to cooking. And Sefi-chan teaching is easy to understand too." he said. Onee-san is spoiled~.

Come to think of it, his looks are quite uncommon too. I think there's rumors saying he's from Hinoto Empire. I mean, black hair and black eyes are rare in this country. When I asked, "Where are you from~?", he turned evasive and said that he didn't really know cause he was an abandoned child. Bad baad boy, don't underestimate woman's intuition you know~. It was obvious from his gestures that he didn't want to talk about it~. Weell, I'm not one to talk though. I mean, I'm living while hiding my identity as a Lamia kin~.

It's only natural that everyone has something they hide, but I wonder why I feel a bit lonely about this.

A shocking question flew out of his mouth then.

『I'm wondering, just what kind of other races there are out there? I've seen animalkin and dwarves, but I don't know about the others. I knew from books that Lamia and Onifolks exist though....』

My heart almost leaped out of my mouth. Perhaps he noticed something somewhere~.

If he really did, I probably would have to leave this city I had been living for a long time. I'm not really fond of disputes. It was the same reason I lost my hometown.

The one other place that I could call my home had also been lost when demon king-sama passed away.

I knew without seeing first hand that my mother and siblings were dragged into power struggle after demon king-sama passed away.

I was trained since childhood in assassination techniques like mixing poisons, spear and magic handling for the sake of power struggle. I became well known amongst Lamia kin before I realized it. And I was forced to fight my family. Even if they're of the same tribe...

And when I got sick of such a family, I met demon king-sama. I was attracted to that person and his mysterious atmosphere. And before I was aware, I had disclosed what I had in mind. So easily to the point that it was like I was under some magic or something when I think about it now.

I was really young back then. Yet that person never forced me to participate in battle. I was made to make medicines to help everyone with alchemy as my main job. It was a moment of peace unrelated to my life up until then.

However, that life didn't last long. My real mother and siblings directly went to demon king-sama and demanded me. However, I had no intention at all to return to those people by that time.

Perhaps demon king-sama was aware of my resolution that he told me this.

『Sefilot, you're a very kind kid. But you would be dragged into this if you stay in this country. So you should hide yourself in a human country. I'll teach you the skills you need for that. And I'm sorry about this, but would you do two things for me in exchange?』

Even though I didn't understand why he would go that far for a lowly lamia like me, I decided to take up on that offer.

Demon king-sama teleported me to a forest in the outskirts of Gramada. Near

a small hut.

As requested by demon king-sama, I put a plain paper entrusted to me and a magic rucksack on the desk inside the hut, and installed big barrier stones around the hut. I don't know what it's for, and I don't think I should scrutinize either. That's why I went toward Gramad without looking back.

Afterward, I was active as an adventurer and built this store after amassing some fortune.

And then one day, I heard news about the death of demon king-sama.

I could do nothing but looked down, unable to even repay his kindness. That was exactly one of his requests. It's an unchangeable future. So please, don't worry about it.

I was sobbing like I had turned back to my child self, wasn't I~. But it's weird, I wonder if demon king-sama knew about his assassination. There's no way to find out about that now though.

<TLN: If you're reading this novel at any other site than Sousetsuka .com you might be reading an unedited, uncorrected version of the novel.>

"Sefi-san. You locked the front door again. Ah, I've brought the herbs again, let's go and process it okay."

Nobu-chan's voice came from the back door. I see, the reason why I felt like he was a close old acquaintance was because he feels a bit similar to that person.

I wonder if he would you stay like this even after knowing my true form?

If possible, I'd love that future. I only hope for a place of repose~.

Well, leaving all that stuff asides, I just like Nobu-chan so much I want to eat him~.

Ufufu, you can't run away from one-chan you know~, No-Bu-Chan.

Interlude 2: A Moment at Levellit Temple-thing Shack ①

Today I took the day off since I got tired of always questing and leveling up after training. But now that I think about it, there's really nothing I wanna do.

While I was wandering around aimlessly I caught sight of the shack from

before.

Come to think of it, I never went there again after that one time. That noGoddess would probably sulk if I don't get her some offerings.

Oh right, I've got some leftover steamed buns in my rucksacks. Let's use them as offerings.

I swing my foot toward the empty looking shack. The door is open, for it's a temple for once.

And what came to my sight was....

A passed out Bell.

I hurriedly get to him and hold him. His chest is going up and down, looks like he's alive. There's breathing too. Just what on earth happened.

"Nn... Kuh, a."

"Are you alright!? What happened?"

"S..."

"S?"

"I'm starving... I haven't eaten anything for the past several days."

Ku~~~~

A reserved stomach sound that's just like him resounds.

I see, I see... Gimme back my worry!

That said, leaving him after seeing this would leave a bad taste. I have steamed buns with me, but since he hasn't eaten for several days, that's not good for his stomach. I'll grate some apples and spoon it to him.

"Here you go, this should go down nicely. Eat slowly."

I feed him with a spoon, leaving out honorifics altogether. At first he was chewing slowly, after a while he began to eat with great relish. How do I say it,

kinda feels like a parent bird feeding their youngling.

After cleaning the plate, he seemingly came to himself and realized that I was supporting him.

"Sososososorry. You're Nobusada-san, right. Thank you very much for saving me. I suddenly lost consciousness, I thought I was done for..."

"Whoa there, calm down. However, why didn't you eat for several days?"

"I'm ashamed to tell you, but just the other day, I wasn't feeling well and couldn't go out to work at other temples, which is helping with healing at the sick ward. Did you know that you could get stuff like vegetables and free lunch if you went to help at the sick ward."

Afterward, Bell had a fervent speech about the wonderfulness of helping at sick ward. But I thought something while I listened to him. That means this temple has no point then...

But I couldn't say it. I mean, it's too pitiful. Let's drop by here from times to times. Otherwise, I'd worry the day Bell died from starvation.

"Does this temple not get enough offerings to the point that you have to do that?"

"Gunnyuu... Yes. There was no more offerings since Nobusada-san's baptism. As for healing service, other temples get the priority to have the patients transported there...."

Fumu, that's a serious problem. But why would this temple get to be the outcast. It's just too much.

"H-however, Head Priest of Ares Temple has been treating me food if I go help at the sick ward. And um, we go out to have meals together sometimes too."

Isn't that just the head priest trying to get close to you? I might be reading too much into it, but maybe that's related to this temple getting left out?

"Head Priest-sama? He's a man at the prime of his life."

Is this a homo thing? I'm not good with that stuff. Umu, I'm a temp apostle for once after all, perhaps I should come up with a way for Bell to earn his keep before he step into a dubious path?

But I wonder if there's something that can be done.

The site of this Levellit Temple (Shack) isn't that bad in itself. There are residential buildings around the temple, there's shops and guard station not too far away. You'd have thought that he should get enough offerings with this, but there's an Ares Temple's sick ward nearby. In modern analogy, it's like choosing between going to a town doctor or a major hospital. And since there's no patient, the town doctor went to help at the major hospital. Since he's always absent, the people around start to not recognize him as a doctor.

What a negative spiral.

If we focus only on Bell's healing ability and personality, then having him paying a visit to the elderly on the neighborhood is a good idea. Feel like they'll pamper him like he's their own grandchild. Or he could win over children and fish out their parents. In order for that to happen, we need an impetus. Hmm, wonder if there's anything good for that.

"I can't come up with anything good, I'm gonna think about it while walking around in the town, you should get some rest Bell. I'll leave this for you."

I take out leftover fruits and breads from the rucksack.

"I'm very thankful for this, but are you sure? Please don't force yourself."

"I'm a believer for once after all. And I can't just let one of the few

acquaintances I have here be in trouble."

"Nobusada-san..."

After putting the still weak Bell to his bed, I wander around in the town. Unlike before, I have a goal now.

Hmm. Hmnnnnnnnnnn.

I'm stumped.

For now, let's think up something that our target would likely want.

They're not adventurers, so it's not like they're going on an adventure somewhere, and they can't just readily buy something expensive either. Something with a high consumption rate and frequent buying cycle would be nice. Which means, it naturally has to be foodstuff.

I head to a grocery store.

The grocery store I'm heading to stocks up ingredients from both the dungeons and farms at 50:50 ratio, even Solomon Pavilion buy their stuff there. I bought the honey back then from the place too.

<TLN: If you're reading this novel at any other site than Sousetsuka .com you might be reading an unedited, uncorrected version of the novel.>

"Welcome, welcome. We're having a sale on celery and onion today. We recommend dungeonborne sea bream and flounder. Ooh I almost bust a groove there."

"Hi, Kumahat-san. You've got some nice stuff today."

"Oh, s'that you Nobu. Yer' still so thin, you gotta eat more if you want to stay on yer' adventurer line of work."

This person is the storekeeper of this [YaoEight] store, Kumahat-san. His hearty laugh is famous around here. The origin of the store name is unknown. He gave me some not so nice nickname like Leek Kid when we first met, but after I helped him make up with his wife after a huge fight, he stopped doing it. The store is managed only by him and his wife, but since it has a wide variety of line up with good quality, I've been getting stuff here often.

Various vegetables and fruits are put on shelves inside the store. Fish and meat are stored inside magic rucksack with preservation function, taken out when you buy it. Looks to be the last resort since there's no refrigerator. However, this store is famous for offering fresh stuff. The fact that most of the goods have been sold out just before the store closes is a testament to its

popularity.

I look around the store and find a huge mound in one corner. Looking closer, it's a pile of small apples.

"Kumahat-san, what's with these apples?"

"Ah, those are from a farm I know, y'see. They're small and sour, no one's buying so I ended up taking them. I thought I could sell them for cheap at least, but that sourness is a hard one it seems y'see. This one's a miss in my judgment."

Since it's not selling at all, there's a note with 100 mani written on the heap. Fumu, I'm hit with an idea. This will do, won't it!?

"Kumahat-san, I'm buying all of this. Also some sugar and lemon too."

"You serious!? Yer really a lifesaver. I'll lower the sugar and lemon price a bit for ya."

Thus, I hurried back to Levellit Temple after buying (a pile of) small apples, lemon and sugar for 50 mani. Bell was sleeping when I got there. Least close the

door will ya, it's wide open.

I immediately start cooking in the shabby kitchen.

I single mindedly peeled off half of the huge amount of apples. Then I diced them all into small pieces. I add lemon juice and sugar on it, and mix them together. It's tiring on the hands coz of the amount.

After I've mixed them well, I have a taste. Umu, it's a bit too sour, but this should be just right after simmering.

I put a certain amount in a pot and simmer it while taking out the broth.

Once the apple turns half-transparent and the broth is gone, it's complete.

I was pouring mana into it during the process. When I was making deep fried bread and stuff, I tried pouring mana into it as a magic practice, and the result was higher enclosed mana and better tasting bread. I don't know the logic behind it, but there's no harm in better tasting food... I think.

And here's the result. It's just an apple jam, but I'd better add a brand name on it as a proof this temple sells it. Apple, apple, hmm, let's just call it Applevel. Kinda sound melodic methink.

Applevel Jam <TLN: or alternatively Leveringo, ringo= apple.>

Quality: High - Enclosed Mana: 10/10

Expiration Date: Best Before Two Weeks

Good quality apple jam supplied with mana during its production. It's perishable, so please consume as soon as possible. Has a slight mana recovery effect, and plentiful of dietary fiber, very effective for missus with constipation problem.

Ooh, it came out better than expected. The taste doesn't fall behind the one I ate in Japan too.

This will sell well as long as we market it well, won't it?

Ah, Discerning-sensei, you don't have to display expiration date unless I specifically ask for it.

As for its container, I made a small jar made from stone by putting Rock Hand Smash to practical use. Unlike when I'm materializing it out of nothing, I call out pure stone from the ground to form the jar.

It's only as big as a teacup and comes in a set with a lid also made from stone, I'll be mass producing them. This cost nothing, so the final cost ends up cheap. I'll engrave a picture of flowers, an amiable-looking bear, a bipedal cat and stuff on them to make it popular with the children. It might also serve to fire up collector spirit on some people, prompting them to complete the whole set.

Now then, half of the apples I have make for, whoa, 200 jars of Applelevel Jam.

Now we just need to sell it here. That said, simply selling doesn't have enough impact. I should try doing that by referring to a certain thing.

Interlude 3: A Moment at Levellit Temple-thing Shack ②

I'm running an open stall at the site of Levellit Temple. Of course, I've already prepared a paper fan and a fake megaphone already.

"Welcome, welcome, we've got a very nice jam endorsed by Levellit-sama, [Applelevel Jam] with us here. The pretty ma'am walking over there, your beautiful skin is guaranteed to get even smoother if you eat this jam. And for the lovely adventurer lady over there. This jam amazingly has an effect to recover mana ever so slightly. Giving flavors to your dull meals in your adventuring while also recovering your mana, what an incredible value. And you can get all that for just 50 mani. Come in, we've prepared samples for you to have a taste here!"

I began selling the jam after giving that speech. The reaction was lukewarm, I guess. I've sold 20 jars already. The female adventurer seemed to be attracted by the mana recovery talk, and after seeing that, drawn by that, the housewives began to taste the samples. I was thinking that it would go well if this kept up.

However, not everything will always go the way you want.

"Oy, oy, ain't no way stuff that can recover mana be this cheap. You shouldn't tell lies, brat."

"Right, right, you damn faker."

Five people that wouldn't look out of place were they called the Thug Series have surrounded me. Noo, the housewives that had come here all went away. The hell you're doing, damn you.

"I'm not telling any lie. It does recover mana, and is good for your health. Who are you guys to have the gall to claim such even though you never even tried it? I happened to catch sight of you coming from Ares Temple, perhaps you guys are related to the temple?"

Yes, my Nobusada Eyes (estimated at 4.0 visual acuity) clearly saw that. Thought it may not apply to the entire temple, I should consider a part of Ares

Temple to be in cahoots.

"Y-y-you're wrong. We're just ordinary men who don't approve of this trickery."

"T-t-t-t-hat's right, right. I'mma knock over these fakes."

They're obviously shaken. What a honest to goodness reaction. Moreover, Thug B tried to knock over my selling stand while saying that. Someone caught his hand as he reached over to the stand. And then, Thug B soundlessly fell down. What was that aikido-like move just now.

"Geez, what a rowdy bunch. When did this city's public order fall so low, I wonder."

The one holding that hand is a crossdressing beautiful woman who wears a mask that cover the area around her eyes.

...Eh!? Is she a member of a certain opera group or something!?

What are you doing? I was ready to shoot out stones here. But since someone took the stage from the blindside, I've decided to take a wait-and-see approach.

"Y-you bastard, the hell you're doing. This ain't your business."

"Fufu, as a resident of this city, I can't overlook people who give false accusations and trouble others. Besides, these goods are undoubtedly effective. I say this as a bearer of Appraisal skill."

...*rustle*...*rustle*...*rustle*....

The beauty's testimony rustled the surrounding people. One might have thought that this was staged, but it's a completely unforeseen event for me. Or rather, how should I go coping with this now.

When I was wondering what I should do since I ended up turningg into a sort of onlooker, I caught sight of the guards coming here. Someone probably informed them. Good job, unknown someone.

"Ok, stop right there. Everyone causing the commotion, stay where you are. We'll knock you out if you get violent."

While saying some private policemen-like line, the private policemen, I mean the guards arrest the thugs. Huh? Why are they coming here?

"You seem to be the cause of this commotion. I'll listen to what you have to

say at the station."

Eh, wait, why me too!? I'm not involved in the quarrel, I'm the victim here no matter how you look at it y'know.

"Aah, he's a victim in this uproar, he doesn't have anything to do with it. I guarantee it."

"No well, you're also going to..."

The higher-up looking guardsman stopped moving when he saw the beauty. The beauty showed him a crest adorned on the dagger she had on her waist. Wonder whose crest is that.

"No, we will not pursue this matter further as you have spoken so. Please excuse me."

"Sorry about this. It'd be nice if you could investigate who's behind these men too."

"Yes, understood!"

The higher-up who is now acting like an long-serving underling take the thugs they arrested away. Umu, this is just like Komon-sama's tribunal now. Now then, what'd happen to me. I should give my thanks at least.

"Thank you for saving me. You're a lifesaver."

"Please don't worry about it. And I'm sure you'd be able to easily deal with those guys. I just lent a hand as a fellow Levellit believer."

What!? Not sure if it's that uncommon, but this is the first I've met someone as quirky as me.

Name: Shani Azbel - (Real Name: Casca Tycoon)

Gender: Female - Age: 16 - Race: General Human

Class: Princess Knight Lv19 - State: Healthy

Title: 【Knight of Levellit】

【Skill】

Rapier Lv4 - One-handed Sword Lv4 - Self-defense Lv3 - Small Shield Lv3 -

Water Magic Lv3 - Life Magic - Appraisal Lv2 - Etiquette Lv4 - Charisma

【Class Skill】

Sentinel

Knight Commonness 『

Sentinel

』

Cut down physical damage to a degree for a period of time. Ineffective against magic.

Bwoah, I almost blurted out.

This girl is the daughter of duke-sama huh. But her real name is the real dangerous one here. This country is Tycoon Dukedom <TLN: Tled as Taikun before>. With that on her name, she must be a royalty. This smells like trouble. Nevertheless, she sure got a lot of skills. Wonder if it has something to do with the noGoddess's blessings.

<TLN: If you're reading this novel at any other site than Sousetsuka .com you might be reading an unedited, uncorrected version of the novel.>

Tettere~♪ Disguise leveled up

Looks like she used Appraisal too. Disguise-kun leveled up.

"How did you know I was a Levellit believer?"

"Well, Bell is a friend of mine you see. He was really happy when he told me that there was a new believer, a black haired boy he said, it piqued my interest."

Beeeeelllll. Well, no point crying over spilt milk. He said that I was the first person he did baptism, he must have been frolic. This girl doesn't seem like a bad person anyway, should be no problem. No well, there's a huuge problem with her position though. I hope it doesn't turn into anything big.

"Is that right. Well, I did all this in an effort to help Bell too. I thought that the temple management would have it easier if this Applelevel Jam could become its specialty product."

"I see. I think that's a good thing. Let me purchase some too. Truthfully, I couldn't get this flavor out of my mind after trying the sample earlier, hahaha."

And then the wild masked young lady bought five jars of jam.

The onlookers who were surprised begun to form a line. A testimony from a user of Appraisal skill must have been quite effective. 200 jars of Applelevel Jam were completely sold out in a blink of an eye. Haahaahaa, this is a fortunate miscalculation. Of course my merchant spirit didn't forget to announce that Levellit Temple would be selling Applelevel Jam from tomorrow on.

Afterward, I cleaned up the place and went back to the temple in a hurry. I think it's about 3 PM now. I never thought that it would be sold out this fast. I thought there would be leftovers even. I've got to make more since the ones I planned to sell tomorrow are all gone. Oh right, gotta order more apples at Kumahat-san on my way back. Wonder if he'd undertake it if I offer to buy it at a higher price.

I overheard people having a pleasant chat of some kind when I was walking toward Bell's room to report.

"Ooy, Bell. You sure you can get up already?"

"Ah, Nobusada-san. I'm sorry for making you worry. I'm fine now. I can go help the treatment all day from tomorrow on!"

Miss Shania was in the room. Is it not a problem for a young lady to visit a

boy's room alone? Well, I don't think Bell is capable of the act though. The two of us frowned at Bell who was confidently getting his priority backward.

"Bell, don't you think that's no good as a priest of Levellit Temple."

"That's right, you've got something else I need you to do tomorrow."

"Something I need to do?"

"Ummu. I made and sold a jam I called Applevel Jam at my own discretion. You should promote your healing to housewives and adventurers who buy this jam as the temple's specialty. I'll be the one making the jam, but you'll be responsible selling them, Bell. You'll be paid wages and offerings from the portion of the sales, so please accept it. As long as you promote it well, people will know that they can get treatment here at this temple, and if you get along with them while you're selling the jam, they should come here regularly. When that happens, you won't pass out starving like you did in the morning ever again."

"Fuua"

Bell got confused to see me talking rapidly. He's got a very idiotic look on his face, but I guess that's only natural. I mean, things were moving along while he was sleeping. A complete bolt from the blue.

"And, here's half of the sales today. I'm leaving this here as an alm, use it to get proper food and make sure not to faint again. I'm going to make more jam now, I'm borrowing the kitchen, okay."

Bell nodded. He's been swept in the flow now. I'm being forceful, but if I don't push his back like this, the folks at Ares Temple would take advantage of him.

I felt a presence behind me while I was making jam in the kitchen.

Since it feels sharper than Bell, it's probably the wild young lady.

She speaks as I turn around.

"You're quite a good guy, aren't you."

"Really? I mean, many people have been helping me too. I just couldn't overlook Bell getting taken advantage of."

"Well, many who became Levellit-sama's believers are good guys like you. Come to think of it, I haven't introduced myself. I'm Shania. It'd be nice if you can get along with me like with Bell."

"Pleasure to meet you, I'm Nobusada. I'm just a humble rookie adventurer. Happy to be acquainted with you, good guy-sama who went and saved an unfamiliar jam seller."

I gave my gratitude exaggeratedly while smiling. Seeing that, Miss Shania looks like she's about to burst out laughing.

"Fufufu, nice retort there. Well then, I should be going now. It feels like we're bound by some kind of fate. I'll be looking forward to that."

Miss Shania left while saying some cryptic stuff. She seems like a good person, but please don't let it be troublesome fate if possible. But that kind of type is probably going to get the surrounding swept in. I resume simmering the jam while feeling unease for the future.

Ah, I completely forgot to offer the steamed buns.

Later on, I put steamed buns along with the jam in front of the goddess statue after remembering that.

Swosh

The stuff I offered vanished instantly.

Aieeeeeeee

She's watching! She's watchiiiiing! She's watching what's going on heeere.

And then something flutters down. A strip of paper falls on the floor.

With a word.

『Thankie!』

Written there.

....noGoddesssssss!

Please give back the jar.